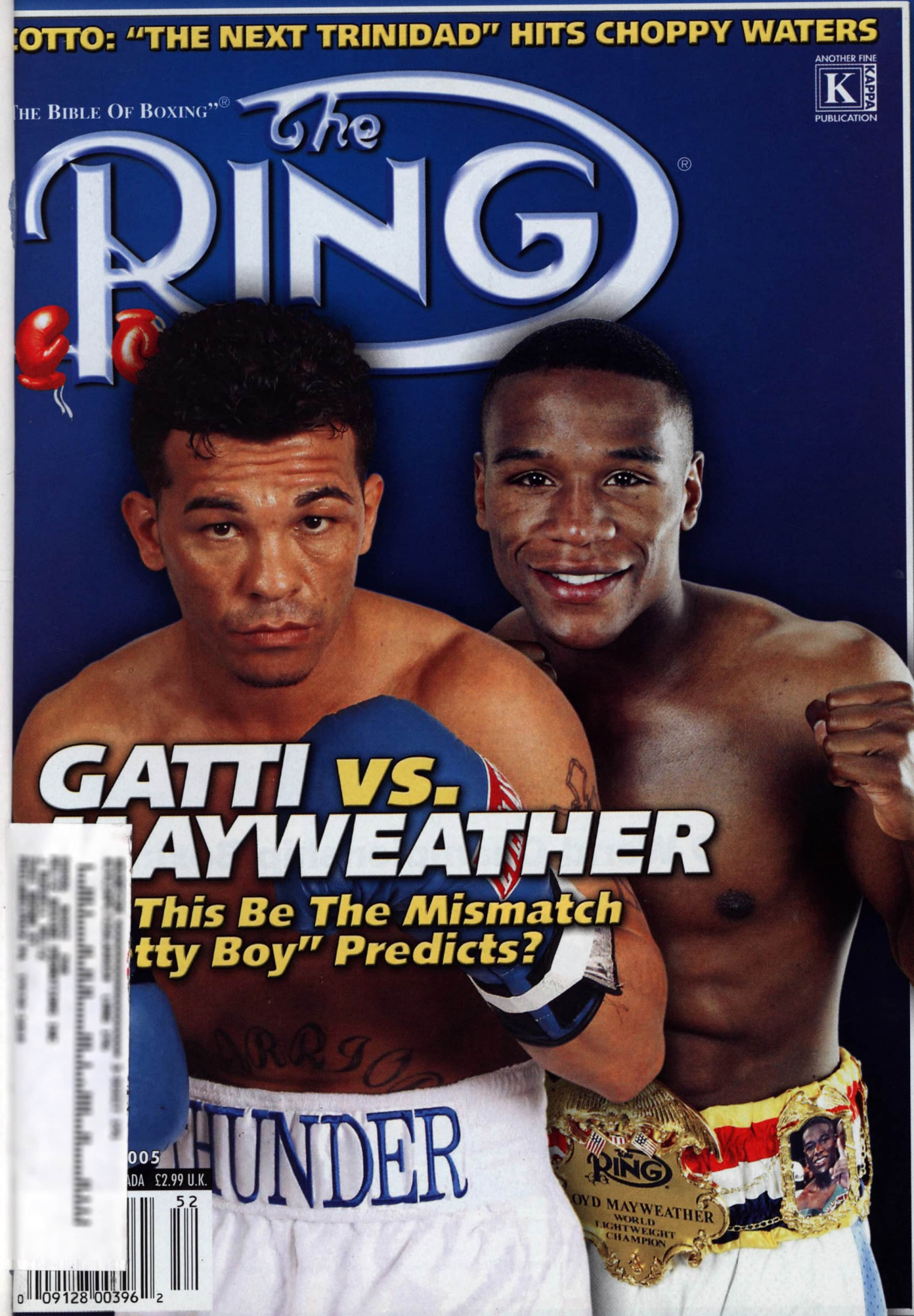
COTTO: "THE NEXT TRINIDAD" HITS CHOPPY WATERS

ANOTHER FINE KAPPA PUBLICATION

"THE BIBLE OF BOXING"®

The RING®



GATTI VS. MAYWEATHER

This Be The Mismatch tty Boy" Predicts?

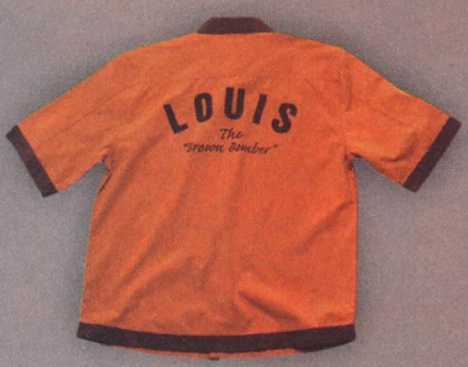
005
ADA $2.99 U.K.
52
0 09128 00396 2

HBO World Championship Boxing®

Legendary.

HBO SPORTS®

Subscribe online at HBO.com AOL Keyword: HBO ©2005 Home Box Office, Inc. All rights reserved. ® Service marks of Home Box Office, Inc.



EVERLAST
★
HERITAGE

www.everlast.com

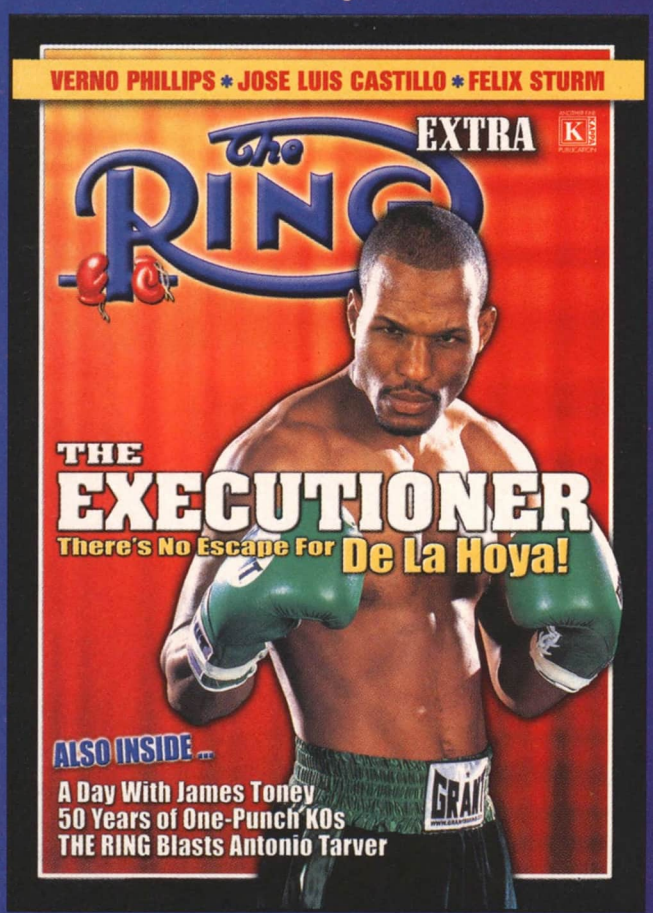
©/™ 2004 Jack Dempsey, Rocky Marciano, Floyd Patterson, Joe Louis, Ray Robinson Properties & Licensing by CMG Worldwide, www.CMGWorldwide.com

SUBSCRIBE TO The RING

SAVE MORE THAN $25!

The Undisputed Champion In Three Weight Classes!

Like the sport it has been covering for 83 years, The Ring is now featured in separate weight classes: The Ring, The Ring Extra, and The Ring Double.



You'll see the differences in sizes, but you never see a difference in the standard of excellence "The Bible Of Boxing" established in 1922, and proudly flaunts today.

Send To: **London Publishing Co.**, P.O. Box 2085, Dept. 9, Marion, OH 43306-8185

☐ YES, I would like to take advantage of your money-saving offer. I have indicated below which subscription plan I am ordering and have enclosed my payment or provided my credit card information.

TWO WAYS TO SAVE!

Please Check Off The One You Wish To Order:

1 Save More Than $10 Over Newsstand Price!

☐ The Ring/Extra/Double (7 issues) for $34.20. LRNG

2 Monster Deal—More Than $25 Off Newsstand!

☐ The Ring/Extra/Double (14 issues) for $59.85. LRNG

Please indicate method of payment:

☐ Check or money order
(enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Card #_____

Expiration Date: ___/___
MO/YR

Signature: _____

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____APT.____

CITY_____STATE____ZIP_____

☐ New Subscription ☐ Renewal

FOR CANADA AND ALL OTHER COUNTRIES: $39.80 FOR SEVEN ISSUES ($51.70 AIRMAIL); $71.05 FOR 14 ISSUES ($94.85 AIRMAIL). INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDERS ONLY IN U.S. FUNDS ONLY. PLEASE ALLOW UP TO EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE YOU RECEIVE YOUR FIRST MAGAZINE. OFFER EXPIRES JANUARY 31, 2006.

A0505R

7009

CONTENTS

Summer 2005

page 22

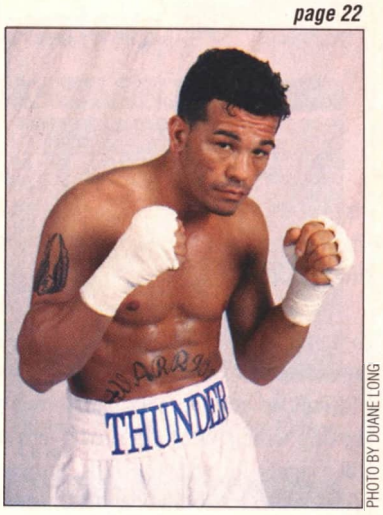


PHOTO BY DUANE LONG

FEATURES

22 MAYWEATHER'S BOAST
"I'm Going To Talk To Gatti While I Beat Him"
By David Mayo

30 UNLIMITED OPTIONS
Revitalized Morales Calls The Shots After Thriller With Pac-Man
By Brian Doogan

36 COTTO HITS CHOPPY WATERS
Maybe He's Not The Next Trinidad After All
By Robert Mladinich

42 SUPER BANTAM TITLIST
MAHYAR MONSHIPOUR
Tragedy Reconfirmed His Identity
By Brian Doogan

48 PINKY SILVERBERG:
THE MAN HISTORY FORGOT
How The Ex-Flyweight Champ's Son Set The Record Straight
By Mike Silver

page 36

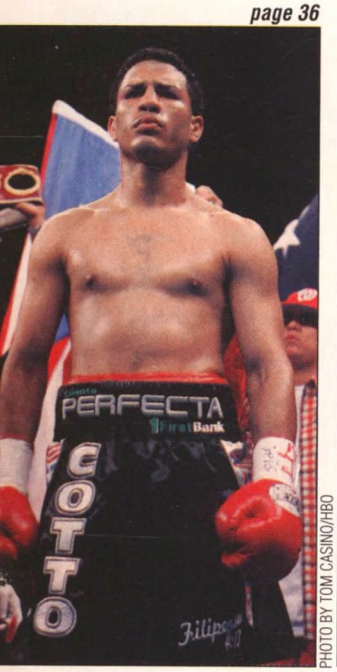


PHOTO BY TOM CASINO/HBO

page 30

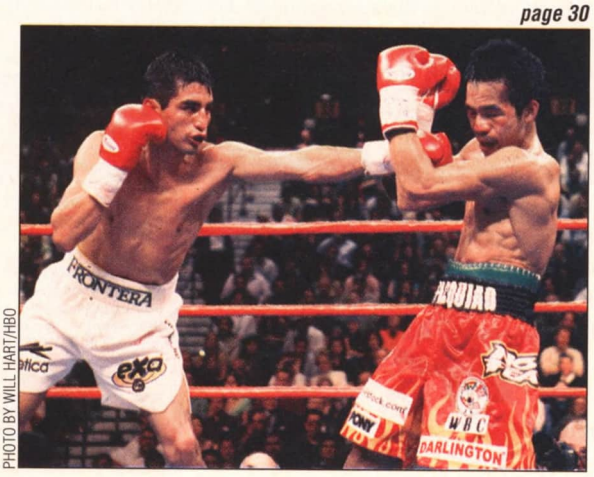


PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Ringside Reports And Analyses

54 FIGHTER OF THE MONTH & RINGSIDE REPORTS

Ratings

13 RATINGS ANALYSIS

14 THE RING'S INTERNATIONAL RATINGS AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENTS

6 RINGSIDE, *by Nigel Collins*

8 ROUND ONE

16 RYAN OUT LOUD, *by Jeff Ryan*

18 CAMERA CLICKS

20 NEW FACES: Heavyweight Raphael Butler, *by Joe Santoliquito*

52 WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

64 RINGSIDE REPORTS

62 THE RING FLASHBACK: April 1974

64 COME OUT WRITING

66 LOOKING AHEAD, *by Eric Raskin*

Cover:
Arturo Gatti
by Duane Long
Floyd Mayweather
by Chris Farina

Cover Design:
Monica Fisher

RINGSIDE

Thanks to a fistful of Academy Awards garnered by *Million Dollar Baby* and the critical success of the NBC reality show *The Contender*, boxing has been getting a bit more attention from the mainstream media than usual. The trick is shifting that attention to the sport in general.

When *Rocky* became a huge hit almost 30 years ago, going to the fights quickly became the hip thing to do among a lot of folks who had never even considered attending a boxing match before seeing the movie. But that sort of synergy is far more difficult to achieve now than it was in 1976. Back then many newspapers still had boxing writers on staff. Today, they are an endangered species, so it's going to be a lot tougher for wannabe fans, turned on to the sport by *Million Dollar Baby* and/or *The Contender*, to find out what's going on in boxing world.

Boxing Web sites have replaced newspapers coverage to an extent, but most of the people who use them are hardcore fans to start with, so boxing sites are basically preaching to the choir. You could say the same thing about THE RING, but at least you don't have to have a computer and an Internet connection in order to read it.

What makes a newspaper so crucial to the health of any sport is that they are not aimed at one particular segment of the market. If mainstream sports fans happen to see a boxing story while reading the newspaper, they just might read it, find it interesting, and begin to follow the Sweet Science.

The erosion of newspaper coverage that has been taking place exponentially for the past few decades was typified by what happened when Dan Rafael left *USA Today* earlier this year to work for ESPN's boxing Web site. According to inside sources at *USA Today*, there are no plans to replace Rafael. Instead, the paper intends to borrow writers from other beats on the rare occasion they deem the sport worthy of a line or two.

This is the same system used by practically all U.S. newspapers, which has not only resulted far less coverage, but also in an increasing number of journalists who know next to nothing about boxing providing the bulk of what little coverage remains. This is especially frustrating at a time when many outstanding fights, such as the recent Erik Morales-Manny Pacquiao shootout, are taking place but receiving nowhere near the attention they deserve.

Turning this trend around is a long shot at best, but that doesn't mean boxing consumers should give up without a fight. I haven't purchased a *USA Today* since Rafael left. Moreover, I stopped buying the *Philadelphia Inquirer* in January 2000, when it decided not to hire a new boxing writer following the retirement of Jay Searcy. I suggest all boxing fans do likewise. Boycott media outlets that don't cover boxing—and let them know about it. Most business decisions are based on economics, so let's hit 'em where it hurts.

***

Every now and then you get lucky, and it has been my great pleasure to work side-by-side with Eric Raskin for the past 7½ years. Not only is Eric a consummate editor and an outstanding writer, he's been an integral part of our editorial philosophy and one of the chief architects of THE RING's championship policy. Sadly, this is Eric's final issue as managing editor of THE RING. The good news is that he will continue to contribute to THE RING as a freelancer, so readers will not miss him anywhere as much as I will.

Nigel Collins
Editor-in-Chief

Vol. 84, No. 7 Summer 2005

The RING

ANOTHER FINE KAPPA PUBLICATION

THE RING
"The Bible Of Boxing"
NATHANIEL S. FLEISCHER
Founder
1888-1972
STUART SAKS
Publisher

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ..... Nigel Collins
MANAGING EDITOR ..... Eric Raskin
ASSOCIATE EDITOR ..... Joseph Santoliquito
SENIOR ART DIRECTOR ..... Greg Stevens
ART DIRECTORS ..... Monica Fisher
Jim Malloy
PRODUCTION MANAGER ..... Bethany Lawler
PRE-PRESS DIRECTOR ..... Cliff Campo
IMAGING DIRECTOR ..... Kelly Grant
ASSISTANT EDITORS ..... Dave Lenker
Brandi Mankiewicz
SENIOR WRITER ..... William Dettloff

PRESIDENT
Despina McNulty
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
Kenneth J. Gudaitis
SR. V.P. FINANCE/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
Philip Ketonis
CIRCULATION DIRECTOR
David Tyler
RETAIL SERVICES DIRECTOR
Briana Coppola
NATIONAL CIRCULATION MANAGERS
Robert Nucci
Dave Hagman
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Vincent Bellissima
(215) 643-6385
vbellissima@kappapublishing.com
ADVERTISING ASSISTANT
Dianne Weber
SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES
London Publishing Co.
P.O. Box 2085
Marion, OH 43306-8185
(815) 734-1212

The Ring (ISSN: 0035-5410), Vol. 84, No. 7 (Summer 2005), is published monthly, with additional issues in August and December, by London Publishing Co., 6198 Butler Pike, Suite 200, Blue Bell, PA 19422. Periodicals postage paid at Blue Bell, PA 19422, and additional post offices. Postmaster: Send change of address notices to: The Ring, P.O. Box 2029, Dept. 9, Marion, OH 43306-8121. Single copy price $4.50 ($5.99 in Canada, £2.99 in U.K.). Subscription price $85.50 in the U.S., $114.90 in Canada and remaining countries. Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope bearing the proper amount of postage.

The entire contents of this magazine are copyright ©2005 London Publishing Co. No part of this magazine may be reproduced without the written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. Publisher is not responsible for the accuracy or content of any advertisements appearing in this magazine, nor the delivery or quality of merchandise or services offered. No endorsement of any such advertisement is intended or implied. Advertisers and agencies assume liability for claims arising from the content of their advertisements. Publisher is not responsible for the accuracy or content of any advertisements appearing in this magazine, nor the delivery or quality of merchandise or services offered. No endorsement of any such advertisement is intended or implied. Advertisers and agencies assume liability for claims arising from the content of their advertisements. FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES AND RATES: (215) 643-6385. U.S. and Canadian distribution by Kable Distribution Services Inc., 641 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10022. International distribution by Worldwide Media Service Inc., 115 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010, U.K. distribution by Comag, Tavistock Rd., West Drayton, Middlesex UB77QE, England.

Printed in U.S.A.

International Boxing Hall of Fame - Canastota, New York

I ♥ NY

ANNUAL INDUCTION WEEKEND JUNE 9-12, 2005

★ A Championship Weekend in Boxing's Hometown ★

BANQUET OF CHAMPIONS

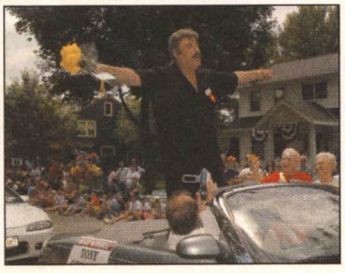
Reminiscing . . . Livingstone Bramble and Lou Duva share fight stories with Banquet crowd.

FIST CASTING

Everlasting . . . Fist cast by George Foreman.

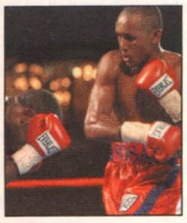
PARADE OF CHAMPIONS

Marvelous . . . Marvin Hagler waves to fans.



Hooray . . . Grand Marshal Tony Orlando enjoys fans along Parade route.

CELEBRITY BOXING NIGHT



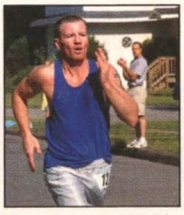
VICTORIANO SOSA

Fight Night . . . Popular boxers featured in action-packed bouts at Turning Stone Casino Resort.

MUSEUM GROUNDS

Autographs . . . George Foreman spends time signing autographs on the Museum grounds.

5K RACE, FUN RUN



Finish Line . . . "Irish" Micky Ward in stride.

Go . . . Ken Norton officially starts race of celebrity boxers and runners.

INDUCTION CEREMONY

A Moment in Time . . . Qawi, Peltz, Nelson, Zaragoza, Palomino, and Christodoulou proudly display their rings.

BOXING CARD SHOW

A Collector's Dream . . . Boxing memorabilia for fans. The world's only all-boxing show draws collectors from throughout the world.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Chip . . . Gerry Cooney (l) chips onto 18th green while Sir Henry Cooper (r) is enroute to next tee.

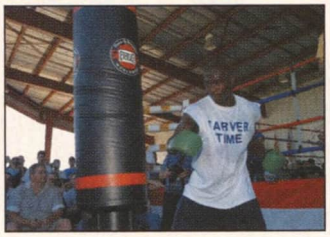
COCKTAIL PARTY

Stars . . . Boxers and fans enjoy VIP cocktail party reception.

MUSEUM

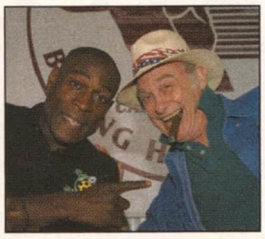
Carlos Palomino points to his boxing robe on display.

WORKOUT SESSIONS



Antonio Tarver working the heavy bag during a public workout.

RINGSIDE TALKS



Having Fun. . . Frank Bruno and Bert Sugar team up for a ringside lecture.

Yes! Please send me a brochure of the Schedule of Events and ticket information

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Int'l Boxing Hall of Fame

PO Box 425 • Canastota, NY 13032

Call: 315-697-7095

or Fax: 315-697-5356

www.ibhof.com

Madison County Tourism 1-800-684-7320

ROUND ONE

MAGEE THE MIRACLE MAN

Eamonn Magee never doubted this moment would arrive as soon as doctors told him that he would walk again. Just over a year after he suffered horrendous injuries in an assault that threatened to leave him crippled for life, the Belfast boxer returned to the ring on March 19 at the King's Hall in his native city. His third-round stoppage of Denmark's Allan Vester in a welterweight bout was almost incidental in the wider context of what he has endured.

Magee, the only man to floor Ricky Hatton (before he dropped a points decision to the Manchester "Hitman" in June 2002) was a passenger in a car forced to stop in a Belfast street when his life was altered malevolently. Two men approached from the car that had cornered his and attempted to drag Magee out of his seat. He was beaten with baseball bats or pickaxe handles and his left leg was shattered, seemingly beyond repair. One of his lungs was punctured, and later a blood clot developed. He sustained serious bruising to his face and arms as he tried to protect himself. After being taken to the hospital and examined, he was told he might never walk again, let alone box.

PHOTO BY JOHN GICHIGI/GETTY IMAGES

Magee: En route to comeback victory over Vester

One of his former neighbors was arrested for carrying out the attack and court proceedings are continuing.

The road to recovery was a painful one. "The first couple of weeks after the attack were the hardest," Magee reflected. "But as soon as I knew I was going to be okay, that I'd be able to walk on the leg again, I was certain I was going to be back in the ring. I had no doubt at all about this."

Boxing has long been Magee's salvation. Many of the scars on his body come not from his participation in the hardest game, but from a youth steeped in trouble. He was even shot in the thigh as an IRA punishment for being "up to no good." But when he became a professional fighter, he curbed his delinquent tendencies and established himself among the ranks of contenders in the incredibly competitive junior welterweight division. He had been scheduled to face Sharmba Mitchell for the interim IBF title when the attack occurred, and he intends to compete again at this level in due course.

"I've fought for the European title (losing on points against former world title challenger Oktay Urkal) and I've boxed Ricky Hatton, and I aim to get back to that kind of standard," vowed Magee, 25-4 (16), who was also due to run the Belfast marathon in May. "I'm hoping to fight some of the bigger names this year. The way I look at it, I've been given one last chance."

—Brian Doogan

SERRANO SURVIVES SHOOTING

A promising career may have been cut short just when it was getting started. 2004 Puerto Rican Olympian Joseph Serrano was seriously injured in a shooting outside Bairoa Gym in Caguas, where Miguel Cotto also trains. The incident occurred just three days after Serrano's successful pro debut on the Cotto-DeMarcus Corley undercard, a first-round kayo of fellow Puerto Rican William Vega.

PHOTO BY MIKE GREENHILL

Serrano: Shot three days after pro debut

According to Carlos Castello, press agent for Team Cotto, Serrano was leaving the gym when two men drove up to the gym on a motorcycle at about 3:00 p.m. on March 2, calling Serrano's name. When the fighter approached, one of them pulled out a gun and shot Serrano in the chest, left leg, and left side of his head. He was rushed to San Juan's University Hospital, where emergency surgery was performed.

After what the doctors termed "completely successful" surgery, Serrano's injuries are no longer considered life-threatening, but his boxing future is obviously still in doubt.

"The first 48 hours after surgery are critical in determining his long-term condition," said Castello. "It's very sad. Joseph is a good kid. He's never been in trouble. He just goes to college and the gym. Supposedly, he was shot by the ex-boyfriend of a girl Joseph was getting to know, but she had broken up with the alleged gunman six months before she even met Joseph."

Castello said that the Puerto Rican Homicide Division is close to making an arrest. Fans can send their best wishes for a speedy recovery to: josephserranovive@yahoo.com.

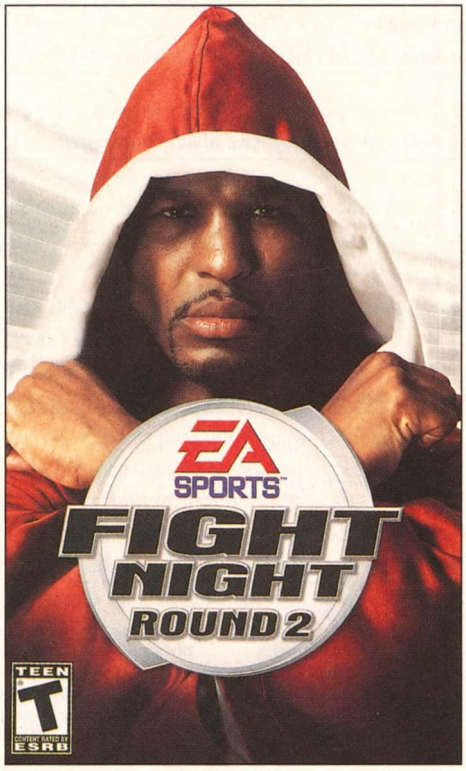
—Mike Greenhill

FIGHTING WITH YOUR FINGERTIPS

I was pretty beaten up. I had a split lip, and my right eye was swollen shut. I didn't look so great, but neither did the other guy. It was late in the 12th round, and I knew the fight was close, so I went in for the finish and decided to throw a jab-hook combo followed by a vicious right uppercut. Luckily, the punches connected and he was down for the 10-count. I held on to my title.

No, I'm not a professional fighter; heck, I'm not even an amateur. I'm talking about my experience playing the newest boxing video game from EA Sports, *Fight Night Round 2*. It has everything you would expect from a boxing video game: fast-paced action, hard-hitting punches, and challenging computer-controlled opponents who force you to be a true strategic expert of the Sweet Science.

This game even has some things you *wouldn't* expect, such as the opportunity to assume the role of the cutman between rounds, and a career mode that allows you to create a boxer from scratch and take him from the amateurs to the pros to retirement. (The only unrealistic element is that you can't bring him back from retirement.) There is also an online mode that allows you to reach out across the country and mix it up with other gamers over a high-speed Internet connection. The game even supports microphone headsets, so you can talk trash if you like.



Hopkins: Featured in new boxing video game

In addition to the fictional fighters you can create, *Fight Night Round 2* features 36 real-life fighters, including Bernard Hopkins, James Toney, Muhammad Ali, Rocky Marciano, Arturo Gatti, Sugar Ray Robinson, Marco Antonio Barrera, Erik Morales, and Manny Pacquiao.

Fight Night Round 2 features excellent graphics and realistic game play, though the controls can be difficult to get the hang of at first. But once you do get a feel for it, the game is an addictive treat for boxing fans and video game fans alike.

—Jim Malloy

TV FIGHTS OF THE MONTH

DATE	WINNER/LOSER	NETWORK	DIVISION	SIGNIFICANCE	MATCHUP	RESULT
3-4-05	Cruz Carbajal KO 6 Jorge Lacierva	ESPN2	b	C+	B+	B-
Isn't it fun when a pretty boy like Lacierva gets busted up and out-toughed like that?						
3-4-05	Rocky Juarez KO 1 Juan Carlos Ramirez	ESPN2	f	C+	C	B-
Juarez getting scary good, and no, he's still not ready for the top guys; what a division this is						
3-4-05	Wilfredo Negron W 8 Marteze Logan	Telef	jw	C	C	C+
Another round or two and who knows? Logan might have pulled this out						
3-4-05	Jose Cotto KO 7 Genaro Trazancos	Telef	jl	C+	B+	C
That's what happens when you listen when people tell you to "go all out" … you get knocked out						
3-4-05	Kelly Pavlik KO 2 Dorian Beaupierre	Show	m	C	B-	C+
Who knew Pavlik could crack like that? Beaupierre no world-beater but always showed a good beard						
3-4-05	Almazbek Raiymkulov KO 6 Koba Gogaladze	Show	l	C+	A	B
Hey, when did they make Boxing After Dark *really good again and put it on Showtime?*						
3-5-05	Jeff Lacy KO 7 Rubin Williams	Show	sm	B+	B	B-
Is it us or is Lacy scarier when he's pacing around the ring after the fight, snorting and grimacing, than he is during it?						
3-5-05	**Jose Luis Castillo KO 10 Julio Diaz**	**Show**	**world l**	**A**	**B-**	**B-**
Yes, everyone knew Diaz was in over his head here; good for him for taking the fight anyway						
3-10-05	Marco Antonio Rubio W 10 J.C. Candelo	HBO-L	jm	C+	B-	B
Candelo not as shot as we thought, but Rubio better, sharper; good fight						
3-10-05	Francisco Lorenzo W 10 Ivan Valle	HBO-L	l	C	B-	C+
Sometimes you can get floored, penalized twice, and still win the decision so long as you keep moving forward						
3-19-05	Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. KO 3 Ryan Maraldo	PPV	jw	C	D+	C
We know Chavez hasn't beaten anyone yet, but damn, he looks like his old man when he hooks to the body						
3-19-05	Martin Castillo W 12 Eric Morel	PPV	jb	A-	B	C+
Anybody else remember when Morel moved all night and was really hard to hit? What happened to that guy?						
3-19-05	Jorge Arce KO 10 Hussein Hussein	PPV	fl	A-	B-	A-
It doesn't matter if you look like someone shoved your face into a wood chipper, so long as you win; good for Arce						
3-19-05	Erik Morales W 12 Manny Pacquiao	PPV	jl	A+	A	A
A few years from now we're going to be missing this era's featherweights an awful lot						
3-25-04	Sam Reese W 10 Enrique Ornelas	ESPN2	sm	C	C+	C
Reese the most consistent spoiler in the business right now; prospects beware						
3-25-04	Demetrius Hopkins W 10 Norberto Bravo	ESPN2	jw	C+	B+	C+
Hopkins proves he can hang inside and bang when he wants to; good fight						
3-26-05	Fernando Vargas W 10 Raymond Joval	HBO	m	B+	C+	C+
We can't explain it fully either, but Vargas is still fun to watch, even when he's boxing rather than brawling						

Category Explanation: "Significance"—The importance of the bout to the division and the fighters' futures; "Matchup"—The quality of the fighters and the prefight determination of how their styles will mesh; "Result"—How the bout turned out, from the viewer's perspective.

(RING championship fights in **bold** type)

Division key: h—heavyweight; c—cruiserweight; lh—light heavyweight; sm—super middleweight; m—middleweight; jm—junior middleweight; w—welterweight; jw—junior welterweight; l—lightweight; jl—junior lightweight; f—featherweight; jf—junior featherweight; b—bantamweight; jb—junior bantamweight; fl—flyweight; jfl—junior flyweight; s—strawweight

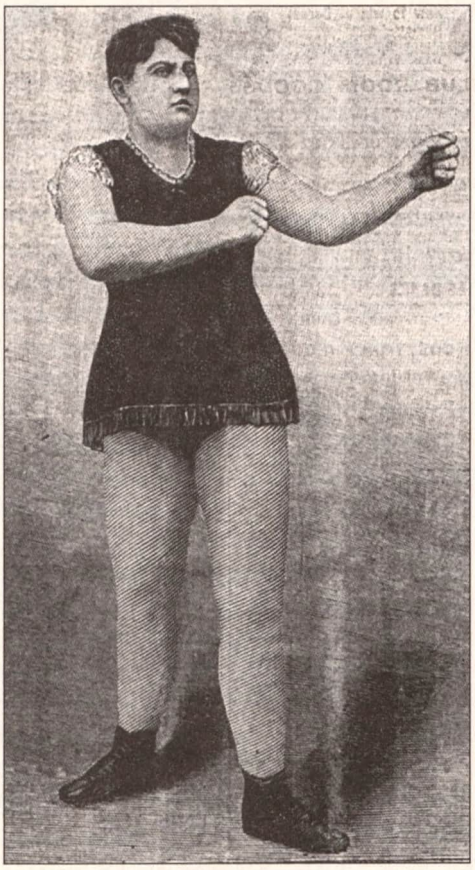
Network key: PPV—Pay-Per-View; Show—Showtime; FOXSN—Fox Sports Net; Uni—Univision; Telef—Telefutura; Telem—Telemundo; HBO L—HBO Latino

HILARY NO HATTIE

The last time the first female boxing champion put up her dukes was at a downtown Milwaukee theater 113 years ago. A few days later, Hattie Leslie was dead at 23.

She was no *Million Dollar Baby*. Other than their profession, Leslie and the heroine of the Clint Eastwood movie named Best Picture of 2004 didn't have much in common.

For one thing, the greatest obstacle overcome by Hilary Swank's Maggie Fitzgerald character was the aversion of her trainer, Frankie (Eastwood) Dunn, to "girlies" wearing boxing gloves. Hattie Leslie went up against the sexism of a whole society that deemed women unfit to even vote in elections, much less fight in the ring.



Leslie: First female boxing champ

That's why, when Leslie met Alice Leary in the first women's championship match on September 16, 1888, the bout was held secretly near Buffalo, New York, Leslie's hometown. Instead of padded gloves, which wouldn't be standard issue in the ring for a few more years, the ladies wore skin-tight gloves in their "fight-to-a-finish" for a $250 purse.

What *The New York Times* decried as a "disgraceful prize fight" lasted seven rounds. The 5'7¼", 175-pound Leslie battered her way to victory over her much lighter opponent.

At the end, the women who "were said to have been good looking before the fight," according to one press dispatch, "were very much exhausted and presented a disgusting picture," according to the *Times*.

When the authorities got wind of it, the new champion was arrested for her unladylike behavior. So was her chief cornerman, boxer George LaBlanche. In exchange for testifying against him, Leslie went free. LaBlanche served six months in jail.

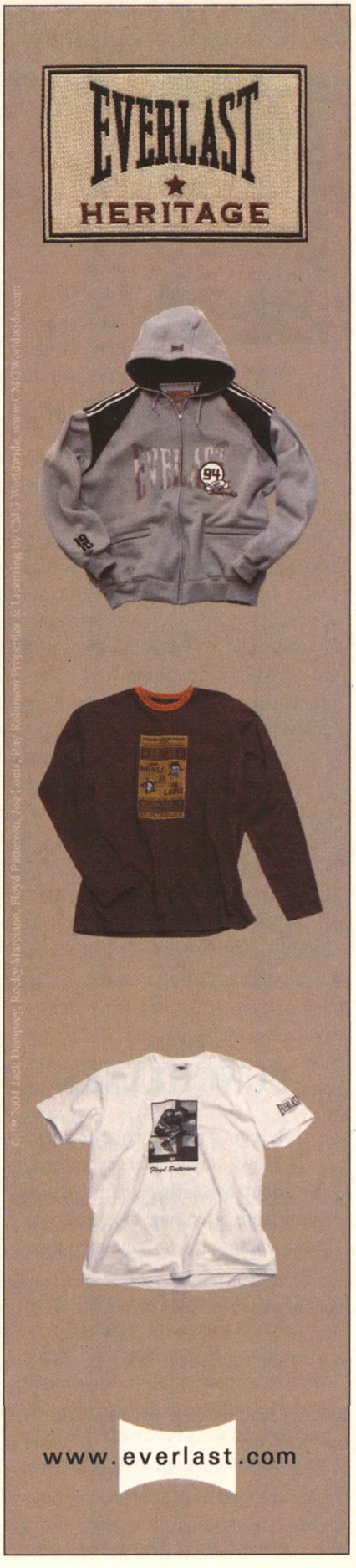
Over the next four years, the "champion lady pugilist of the world" offered to defend her title against all comers. But with female boxers about as plentiful then as one-legged tap dancers, Leslie spent most of her time flexing her muscles on the vaudeville circuit.

On September 18, 1892, she opened an engagement at People's Theater in Milwaukee. She and her husband, John, sparred several rounds, and Hattie "kept him spinning around the stage in lively style," admired the *Milwaukee Sentinel* the next day.

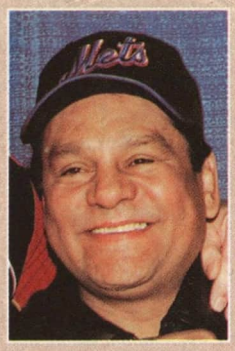
But in the middle of the week, Hattie fell ill and took to her bed in their room at the nearby Exchange Hotel. On September 25, she was dead, put down for the count by typhoid fever.

A whole century would go by before women's boxing got a foothold. Today some troglodytic fight fans still cringe watching the women sling leather. They're lucky Hattie Leslie isn't around to put them in their place.

—Pete Ehrmann

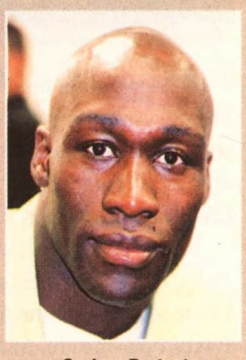


OUTSIDE THE ROPES



Duran: Survives motorcycle accident

Heavyweight champion **Vitali Klitschko** and his brother, **Wladimir,** received the 2004 "Persons Of The Year" Award from The Ukrainian Institute of America at a gala ceremony at the New York Hilton. The award was in recognition for their advocacy of the Ukrainian culture and people ... The March 20 episode of NBC's boxing reality show, *The Contender*, finished fourth in the overall ratings for its time spot, but kayoed the competition when it came to Internet searches, which surged 989 percent during the show. Apparently, viewers' curiosity was peaked by the news that one of the boxers, **Najai Turpin**, had committed suicide several months after being eliminated from the show ... Four-division former titleholder **Roberto Duran** required 10 stitches in his arm after falling from his motorcycle in late-March near his home in Panama City. Duran's wife, Felicidad, told the Associated Press that Duran was descending a hill when his bike slid on an oil patch, hurling him onto the road ... The WBO Championship Committee has rejected a protest from **DeMarcus "Chop Chop" Corley**'s camp demanding an immediate rematch with the organization's 140-pound titleholder, **Miguel Cotto**. Corley had maintained that referee **Enrique Quinones Falu** stopped his fight with Cotto prematurely, but in a letter to Corley's promoter, **Don King**, WBO Championship Committee Chairman **Luis Batista-Salas** wrote that although some members of the committee believe that the ref may have stopped the fight too soon, "Falu was in the best position to evaluate DeMarcus Corley's fitness to continue" ... Former middleweight and light heavyweight contender **Tony Mundine** has been diagnosed with a potentially deadly asbestos-related lung disease. Mundine, the father of current super middleweight contender **Anthony Mundine**, was exposed to asbestos while growing up in the Aboriginal community of Baryulgil, New South Wales, Australia. Several family members have already died of the disease. "They told me I've got one spot on my lung," said Mundine, 55. "I think I'm big enough to fight that one small dot, but maybe in the long run it might slowly but surely wear me down. But I'll be there fighting it." Mundine turned pro in March 1969 and compiled a record of 80-15-1 (64) before hanging up his gloves in March '84. Although he lost to middleweight champion **Carlos Monzon** in his only crack at a world title, Mundine held the Australian middleweight, light heavyweight, cruiserweight, and heavyweight titles during his career ... Middleweight **Clint McNeil**, 26, has been charged with murder of a 17-year-old near Meridian, Mississippi. Authorities believe the shooting was gang-related. McNeil, 16-8 (9), is being held in Clarke County Jail and could face the death penalty if convicted ... Former heavyweight prospect **Jo-El Scott** has been sentenced to life without parole for raping and murdering a 59-year-old woman in Albany, New York ... Native American welterweight **Nelson Levering** died in Winnebago, Nebraska, on February 28 at the age of 78. Levering turned pro in October 1948 and in July '50 scored his biggest victory, a six-round decision over future welterweight champion **Virgil Akins**. Levering's career ended in March '53 when he broke his right hand in a bout with **Nicola Funari**. Levering was 39-5-5 (16) overall and was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1981.



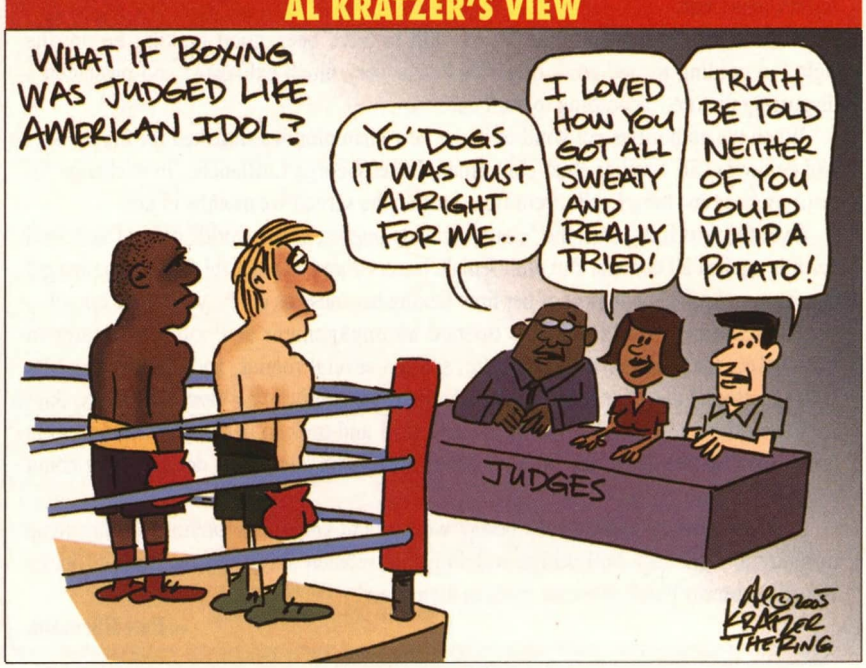
Corley: Protest denied by WBO

THE PUNCHLINES

"He's got a bad case of Floyd-itis"
—Floyd Mayweather, hypothesizing about what illness kept Arturo Gatti from attending the March 23 press conference to announce their June fight

"Don't call me Ricky Fatton"
—Ricky Hatton blasting critics who have poked fun at how much over the 140-pound division limit he was three months before his title fight with world champion Kostya Tszyu

AL KRATZER'S VIEW



The RING
"THE BIBLE OF BOXING"

RATINGS ANALYSIS

POUND-FOR-POUND

1. BERNARD HOPKINS
   Middleweight
2. FLOYD MAYWEATHER
   Junior Welterweight
3. KOSTYA TSZYU
   Junior Welterweight
4. WINKY WRIGHT
   Junior Middleweight
5. MARCO ANTONIO BARRERA
   Junior Lightweight
6. ERIK MORALES
   Junior Lightweight
7. MANNY PACQUIAO
   Featherweight
8. JUAN MANUEL MARQUEZ
   Featherweight
9. JOSE LUIS CASTILLO
   Lightweight
10. GLEN JOHNSON
    Light Heavyweight

(For period ended March 30, 2005)

HEAVYWEIGHTS: No changes

CRUISERWEIGHTS: Championship vacancy should be filled by the next issue as number-one contender Wayne Braithwaite and second-ranked Jean-Marc Mormeck were scheduled to fight on April 2.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS: Rico Hoye (ninth last issue) exits following kayo loss to Clinton Woods, who retains the sixth position. Hoye's departure allows Montell Grifffith to advance from 10th to ninth, and makes room for Eric Harding, fresh from a win over David Telesco, to return at number 10.

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS: Markus Beyer (ninth last issue) jumps to fourth on the strength of his decision over Danny Green, who slips from fifth to sixth. Jeff Lacy (sixth last issue) moves to fifth following TKO of Rubin Williams. Antwun Echols (fourth last issue) falls to seventh due to inactivity, while Mads Larsen (seventh last issue) and Robin Reid (eighth last issue) drop one slot each to accommodate Beyer's advancement.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS: Felix Sturm (third last issue) moves to number one after kayo of Bert Schenk, which pushes Howard Eastman (first last issue) and Oscar De La Hoya (second last issue) to second and third, respectively.

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS: No changes.

WELTERWEIGHTS: No changes.

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS: No changes.

LIGHTWEIGHTS: Juan Diaz (fifth last issue) and Julio Diaz (fourth last issue) switch places following Julio's TKO loss to champion Jose Luis Castillo.

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS: No changes.

FEATHERWEIGHTS: Even though Manny Pacquiao lost to Erik Morales, Pacquiao's status as world featherweight champion is unchanged, as the match was fought at 130 pounds. If he decides to continue to campaign at a higher weight, the title will become vacant.

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS: Jorge Lacierva (sixth last issue) departs due to kayo loss to Cruz Carvajal at bantamweight. Everybody rated below Lacierva last issue climbs one rung each, and Sergio Manuel Medina returns at number 10.

BANTAMWEIGHTS: Carvajal (fifth last issue) changes places with Genaro Garcia (fourth last issue) thanks to Carvajal's win over Lacierva.

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS: Martin Castillo's win over 10th-rated Eric Morel allows him to improve from second to first, replacing Katsushige Kawashima, who slips to the number-two spot.

FLYWEIGHTS: Jorge Arce (rated first at junior flyweight last issue) enters at number seven following his decision over Hussein Hussein, who descends from ninth to 10th. Mzukisi Sikali (fourth last issue) is gone following his kayo loss to third-ranked Vic Darchinyan. Everybody rated fifth through ninth last issue advances one position, while Takefumi Sakata debuts at number nine.

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS: With Arce now fighting at 112 pounds, Victor Burgos (second last issue) takes over the top spot. Arce's exit also allows Beibis Mendoza (third last issue), Nelson Dieppa (fourth last issue), and Pichit Siriwat (fifth last issue) to advance one spot each. Entering at number five is Eric Ortiz, who stopped seventh-rated Jose Antonio Aguirre. Fahlan Sakkreerin (sixth last issue) departs as he is now fighting as a strawweight. Ulises Solis (eighth last issue), Kermin Guardia (ninth last issue), and Roberto Vasquez (10th last issue) move up one position each in the realignment, and Shingo Yamaguchi is new at number 10.

STRAWWEIGHTS: Noel Arambulet (10th last issue) leaves as he is now campaigning at junior flyweight. Rodel Mayol replaces him.

POUND-FOR-POUND: Erik Morales' decision over Manny Pacquiao (fifth last issue) prompts a shakeup that results in Pacquiao falling to seventh, Morales advancing from eighth to sixth, and Marco Antonio Barrera jumping from seventh to fifth. ■

THE RING RATINGS

For Period Ended March 30, 2005

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Martin Castillo takes over top spot at 115 pounds after beating Eric Morel

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

Fighters recognized as champions by THE RING are rated at the top of their division, with the top 10 contenders listed below.

Championship vacancies can be filled by winning a box-off between THE RING'S number-one and number-two contenders, or, in certain instances, a box-off between our number-one and number-three contenders.

The only three occasions when a fighter will lose his championship status are when he retires, moves to another weight division, or is defeated in a championship bout.

Ratings By The Editors

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

Champ: VITALI KLITSCHKO
Ukraine 35-2 (34)

1. **CHRIS BYRD**
Flint, MI 38-2-1 (20)
2. **JOHN RUIZ**
Methuen, MA 41-5-1 (28)
3. **HASIM RAHMAN**
Baltimore, MD 40-5-1 (33)
4. **JAMES TONEY**
Ann Arbor, MI 68-4-2 (43)
5. **MONTE BARRETT**
Queens, NY 31-3 (17)
6. **ANDREW GOLOTA**
Poland 38-5-1 (31)
7. **FRES OQUENDO**
Puerto Rico 24-3 (15)
8. **JAMEEL McCLINE**
Port Jefferson, NY 31-4-1 (19)
9. **LAMON BREWSTER**
Los Angeles, CA 31-2 (27)
10. **SAMUEL PETER**
Las Vegas, NV 22-0 (19)

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 154 pounds

Champ: WINKY WRIGHT
St. Petersburg, FL 48-3 (25)

1. **KASSIM OUMA**
W. Palm Beach, FL 21-1-1 (13)
2. **SHANE MOSLEY**
Pomona, CA 39-4 (35)
3. **VERNO PHILLIPS**
Aurora, CO 38-9-1 (20)
4. **DANIEL SANTOS**
Puerto Rico 29-2-1 (20)
5. **TRAVIS SIMMS**
Norwalk, CT 24-0 (18)
6. **JAVIER CASTILLEJO**
Spain 58-5 (40)
7. **RODNEY JONES**
Lafayette, LA 35-3 (22)
8. **KOFI JANTUAH**
Las Vegas, NV 28-2 (18)
9. **BRONCO McKART**
Monroe, MI 47-6 (31)
10. **ALEJANDRO GARCIA**
Mexico 28-1 (28)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 126 pounds

Champ: MANNY PACQUIAO
Philippines 39-3-2 (30)

1. **JUAN MANUEL MARQUEZ**
Mexico 43-2-1 (33)
2. **INJIN CHI**
South Korea 30-2-1 (18)
3. **ROCKY JUAREZ**
Houston, TX 23-0 (16)
4. **SCOTT HARRISON**
Scotland 23-2-2 (13)
5. **VICTOR POLO**
Colombia 34-4-3 (24)
6. **MANUEL MEDINA**
Mexico 63-14 (29)
7. **MICHAEL BRODIE**
England 35-2-1 (23)
8. **CHRIS JOHN**
Indonesia 34-0-1 (19)
9. **SPEND ABAZI**
Denmark 31-1 (10)
10. **NICKY COOK**
England 24-0 (14)

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 122 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **OSCAR LARIOS**
Mexico 55-3-1 (35)
2. **MAHYAR MONSHIPOUR**
France 26-2-2 (17)
3. **ISRAEL VAZQUEZ**
Mexico 37-3 (28)
4. **JOAN GUZMAN**
Dominican Republic 22-0 (17)
5. **JOSE LUIS VALBUENA**
Venezuela 24-3-1 (14)
6. **YODDAMRONG SITHYODTHONG**
Thailand 41-2-1 (18)
7. **WAYNE McCULLOUGH**
Las Vegas, NV 27-5 (18)
8. **RICARDO CORDOBA**
Panama 24-0 (17)
9. **CELESTINO CABALLERO**
Panama 21-2 (15)
10. **SERGIO MANUEL MEDINA**
Argentina 21-0 (12)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 118 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **RAFAEL MARQUEZ**
Mexico 33-3 (30)
2. **VEERAPOL SAHAPROM**
Thailand 47-1-2 (33)
3. **RATANACHAI VORAPIN**
Thailand 60-8 (40)
4. **CRUZ CARVAJAL**
Mexico 25-12-1 (21)
5. **GENARO GARCIA**
Mexico 32-4 (20)
6. **TOSHIAKI NISHIOKA**
Japan 24-4-3 (14)
7. **SILENCE MABUZA**
South Africa 17-0 (15)
8. **RICARDO VARGAS**
Mexico 36-10-3 (11)
9. **JHONNY GONZALEZ**
Mexico 27-4 (24)
10. **WLADIMIR SIDORENKO**
Germany 17-0 (6)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 200 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **WAYNE BRAITHWAITE**
   Guyana 21-0 (17)
2. **JEAN-MARC MORMECK**
   France 30-2 (21)
3. **JOHNNY NELSON**
   England 44-12-2 (29)
4. **O'NEIL BELL**
   Atlanta, GA 23-1-1 (22)
5. **KELVIN DAVIS**
   Reno, NV 21-2-1 (16)
6. **CARL THOMPSON**
   England 33-6 (25)
7. **STEVE CUNNINGHAM**
   Philadelphia, PA 16-0 (9)
8. **DALE BROWN**
   Canada 33-3-1 (21)
9. **VIRGIL HILL**
   Bismarck, ND 49-5 (23)
10. **PIETRO AURINO**
    Italy 31-2 (14)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 175 pounds

Champ: GLEN JOHNSON
Miami, FL 42-9-2 (28)

1. **ANTONIO TARVER**
   Orlando, FL 22-3 (18)
2. **ZSOLT ERDEI**
   Hungary 22-0 (13)
3. **ROY JONES**
   Pensacola, FL 49-3 (38)
4. **JULIO GONZALEZ**
   Huntington Beach, CA 37-2 (23)
5. **FABRICE TIOZZO**
   Franco 47-2 (31)
6. **CLINTON WOODS**
   England 37-3-1 (23)
7. **PAUL BRIGGS**
   Australia 23-1 (17)
8. **THOMAS ULRICH**
   Germany 27-1 (19)
9. **MONTELL GRIFFIN**
   Chicago, IL 47-5 (30)
10. **ERIC HARDING**
    West Hartford, CT 22-3-1 (7)

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **JOE CALZAGHE**
   Wales 38-0 (30)
2. **MIKKEL KESSLER**
   Denmark 35-0 (27)
3. **ANTHONY MUNDINE**
   Australia 23-2 (18)
4. **MARKUS BEYER**
   Germany 32-2 (12)
5. **JEFF LACY**
   St. Petersburg, FL 19-0 (15)
6. **DANNY GREEN**
   Australia 19-2 (18)
7. **ANTWUN ECHOLS**
   Davenport, IA 31-5-1 (27)
8. **MADS LARSEN**
   Denmark 45-2 (37)
9. **ROBIN REID**
   England 38-4-1 (27)
10. **MANNY SIACA**
    Puerto Rico 18-5 (16)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 160 pounds

Champ: BERNARD HOPKINS
Philadelphia, PA 46-2-1 (32)

1. **FELIX STURM**
   Germany 23-1 (11)
2. **HOWARD EASTMAN**
   England 40-2 (35)
3. **OSCAR DE LA HOYA**
   Los Angeles, CA 37-4 (29)
4. **FELIX TRINIDAD**
   Puerto Rico 42-1 (35)
5. **JERMAIN TAYLOR**
   Little Rock, AR 23-0 (17)
6. **ROBERT ALLEN**
   Atlanta, GA 36-5 (27)
7. **MASELINO MASOE**
   New Zealand 26-2 (25)
8. **KINGSLEY IKEKE**
   Canada 22-1 (12)
9. **SAM SOLIMAN**
   Australia 30-7 (12)
10. **ARTHUR ABRAHAM**
    Germany 15-0 (14)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 147 pounds

Champ: ZAB JUDAH
Brooklyn, NY 33-2 (24)

1. **ANTONIO MARGARITO**
   Mexico 31-4 (22)
2. **CORY SPINKS**
   St. Louis, MO 34-3 (11)
3. **THOMAS DAMGAARD**
   Denmark 34-0 (26)
4. **MANUEL GOMEZ**
   Mexico 27-10-1 (19)
5. **KERMIT CINTRON**
   Reading, PA 24-0 (22)
6. **JAWAID KHALIQ**
   England 23-1-1 (13)
7. **CARLOS BALDOMIR**
   Argentina 40-9-6 (12)
8. **COSME RIVERA**
   Los Angeles, CA 27-7-2 (19)
9. **DAVID ESTRADA**
   Chicago, IL 18-1 (9)
10. **JOSE ANTONIO RIVERA**
    Worcester, MA 37-3-1 (24)

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 140 pounds

Champ: KOSTYA TSZYU
Australia 31-1 (25)

1. **ARTURO GATTI**
   Jersey City, NJ 39-6 (30)
2. **VIVIAN HARRIS**
   Brooklyn, NY 25-1-1 (17)
3. **FLOYD MAYWEATHER**
   Grand Rapids, MI 33-0 (22)
4. **MIGUEL COTTO**
   Puerto Rico 23-0 (19)
5. **SHARMBA MITCHELL**
   Washington, D.C. 55-4 (31)
6. **RICKY HATTON**
   England 38-0 (28)
7. **JUNIOR WITTER**
   England 31-1-2 (19)
8. **DeMARCUS CORLEY**
   Washington, D.C. 29-4-1 (16)
9. **LOVEMORE NDOU**
   Australia 40-8-1 (26)
10. **OKTAY URKAL**
    Germany 34-3 (10)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 135 pounds

Champ: JOSE LUIS CASTILLO
Mexico 52-6-1 (46)

1. **DIEGO CORRALES**
   Las Vegas, NV 39-2 (32)
2. **JOEL CASAMAYOR**
   Miami, FL 31-3 (19)
3. **JUAN LAZCANO**
   El Paso, TX 33-3-1 (25)
4. **JUAN DIAZ**
   Houston, TX 27-0 (13)
5. **JULIO DIAZ**
   Coachella, CA 30-3 (22)
6. **ACELINO FREITAS**
   Brazil 36-1 (31)
7. **JAVIER JAUREGUI**
   Mexico 49-11-2 (34)
8. **ARTUR GRIGORIAN**
   Uzbekistan 37-1 (23)
9. **JULIEN LORCY**
   France 56-4-2 (41)
10. **LAKVA SIM**
    Mongolia 19-4-1 (16)

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 130 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **MARCO ANTONIO BARRERA**
   Mexico 59-4 (41)
2. **ERIK MORALES**
   Mexico 48-2 (34)
3. **JESUS CHAVEZ**
   Mexico 40-3 (28)
4. **YODSANAN NANTHACHAI**
   Thailand 43-2-1 (35)
5. **CARLOS HERNANDEZ**
   Bellflower, CA 41-4-1 (24)
6. **JORGE BARRIOS**
   Argentina 42-2-1 (30)
7. **CASSIUS BALOYI**
   South Africa 30-1 (16)
8. **MIKE ANCHONDO**
   La Puente, CA 25-0 (18)
9. **ROBBIE PEDEN**
   Australia 25-2 (14)
10. **MZONKE FANA**
    South Africa 22-2 (8)

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 115 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **MARTIN CASTILLO**
   Mexico 28-1 (16)
2. **KATSUSHIGE KAWASHIMA**
   Japan 28-3 (18)
3. **LUIS PEREZ**
   Nicaragua 22-1 (14)
4. **IVAN HERNANDEZ**
   Mexico 19-0-1 (13)
5. **ALEXANDER MUNOZ**
   Venezuela 26-1 (25)
6. **MARK JOHNSON**
   Washington, D.C. 44-4 (28)
7. **JOSE NAVARRO**
   Los Angeles, CA 21-1 (9)
8. **MASAMORI TOKUYAMA**
   North Korea 30-3-1 (8)
9. **FERNANDO MONTIEL**
   Mexico 29-1-1 (23)
10. **ERIC MOREL**
    Madison, WI 35-2 (18)

FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 112 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **PONGSAKLEK WONJONGKAM**
   Thailand 55-2 (29)
2. **LORENZO PARRA**
   Venezuela 25-0 (17)
3. **VIC DARCHINYAN**
   Australia 23-0 (18)
4. **IRENE PACHECO**
   Colombia 29-1 (22)
5. **OMAR NARVAEZ**
   Argentina 18-0-2 (12)
6. **JORGE ARCE**
   Mexico 39-3-1 (29)
7. **ROSENDO ALVAREZ**
   Nicaragua 34-2-2 (22)
8. **BRAHIM ASLOUM**
   France 17-0 (6)
9. **TAKEFUMI SAKATA**
   Japan 22-2-1 (9)
10. **HUSSEIN HUSSEIN**
    Australia 27-2 (21)

JR. FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 108 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **VICTOR BURGOS**
   Mexico 37-13-3 (22)
2. **BEIBIS MENDOZA**
   Colombia 29-3 (23)
3. **NELSON DIEPPA**
   Puerto Rico 22-1-2 (13)
4. **PICHIT SIRIWAT**
   Thailand 30-2 (14)
5. **ERIC ORTIZ**
   Mexico 24-4-1 (16)
6. **ULISES SOLIS**
   Mexico 15-1 (11)
7. **JOSE AGUIRRE**
   Mexico 33-3-1 (20)
8. **KERMIN GUARDIA**
   Colombia 35-4 (21)
9. **ROBERTO VASQUEZ**
   Panama 18-1 (15)
10. **SHINGO YAMAGUCHI**
    Japan 17-3-2 (7)

STRAWWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 105 pounds

Champ: Vacant

1. **YUTAKA NIIDA**
   Japan 17-1-3 (8)
2. **MUHAMMAD RACHMAN**
   Indonesia 49-7-3 (21)
3. **IVAN CALDERON**
   Puerto Rico 21-0 (4)
4. **ISAAC BUSTOS**
   Mexico 24-6-3 (13)
5. **EAGLE KYOWA**
   Japan 13-1 (5)
6. **JUAN LANDAETA**
   Venezuela 15-3-1 (13)
7. **OMAR SOTO**
   Mexico 14-2-1 (10)
8. **DANIEL REYES**
   Colombia 34-3-1 (29)
9. **CHANA PORPAOIN**
   Thailand 51-2-3 (17)
10. **RODEL MAYOL**
    Philippines 20-0 (16)

RYAN OUT LOUD

By Jeff Ryan

YOUNG AT HEART

When we think of Philly tough guys (you're right, that's redundant), our minds rewind to Matthew Saad Muhammad peering through his blood to knock out Marvin Johnson, Smokin' Joe Frazier taking three to give one, gap-toothed Frank Fletcher matter-of-factly discussing his high pain threshold, or Jeff Chandler flattening one street thug after another before being blindsided with a broken beer bottle in the back. The image of the Philadelphia fighter is that of a guy who leaves his opponent peeing red, seeing green, sporting black-and-blue, and turning yellow at the mere mention of a rematch.

There's a reason *Rocky* took place in Philadelphia, and it wasn't just that Sylvester Stallone grew up there. The image of the Philly fighter has always been that of the warrior, of a guy with a nickname like "Bad" Bennie, "The Executioner," or "The Animal." "The City of Brotherly Love," eh? Not when the bell rings.

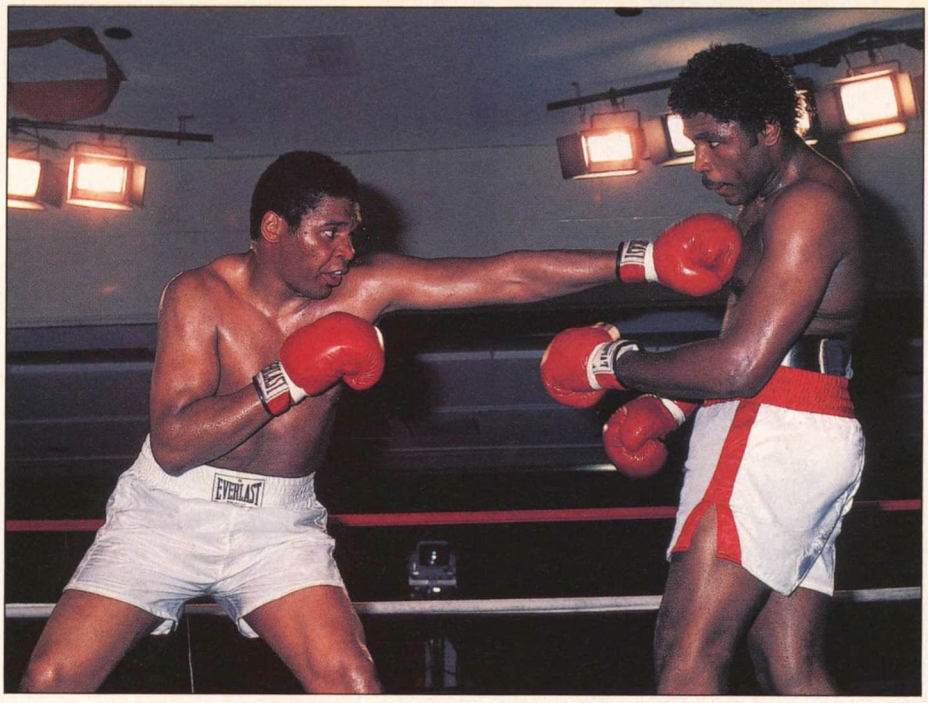
Jimmy Young, the '70s heavyweight contender who died of heart failure on February 20 at the age of 56, isn't the first name that rolls off the tongue when mentioning gutsy gladiators who hailed from the city that popularized cheese steaks, soft pretzels, and throwing snowballs at Santa Claus. (Probably not one of the first *dozen* names, in fact.) Young was often about as exciting as watching an Enswell get cold. In fact, *Sideways* could have been the title of his career highlight film. The only time he moved forward was when he leaned in to touch gloves with his rival at the start of the final round.

Don King announcing Young's 1977 fight with George Foreman, which would prove to be Young's greatest victory

On the biggest night of his career, April 30, 1976, at the Capital Centre in Landover, Maryland, Young tormented heavyweight king Muhammad Ali—and a prime-time audience watching on ABC—by moving, holding, and ducking his upper body through the ropes and outside the ring when "The Greatest" went on the attack. Young beat Ali that night. If it was figure skating, and Young was being judged on technical merit,

he'd have been handed the belt. But it was a contact sport, and there was no way the judges could lift the title from a living legend and award it to a guy who spent more time hanging over an apron than Betty Crocker's boobs. So Ali got the unanimous decision.

Young looked, at best, like a guy with the strangest game plan this side of Gorgeous George that night and, at worst, like a 209-pound chicken. As we'd come to learn, though, Young was a lot braver than his performance against Ali indicated. In fact, when you look at the whole of his career, it's clear that Jimmy Young was as tough a Philly fighter as anybody who ever planted his right cross on someone's chin at The Spectrum or buried his left hook into a side of beef in a South Philly slaughter house.



A 33-year-old Young jabs at an up-and-coming Greg Page in 1982

His record, which ended up 35-18-3 (12) with 1 no-contest, features so many devastating punchers that your jaw starts to ache and your ears start to ring just perusing it. In his 11th pro bout, Young faced Earnie Shavers, owner of possibly the most potent right hand in heavyweight history. In round three, the aforementioned weapon of mass destruction sent Young sliding on his butt to his first kayo defeat. A little less than two years later, however, Young, displaying either cojones the size of boulders or a brain the size of a poppy seed, met Shavers again! The rematch ended in a draw.

Maybe it was because he felt his style and defensive skills were trouble for anyone, or perhaps because he saved his ducking for in the ring, but Young seemed to gravitate to the big bangers. He twice outpointed Ron Lyle, and dealt George Foreman only his second career defeat, sending Big George into retirement for a decade. Later, in a WBC title elimination bout in 1977, Young seemed to outfight Ken Norton, but he lost a split decision. It proved to be a costly defeat, for when heavyweight king Leon Spinks chose to face Ali in a rematch rather than defend against Norton, the WBC stripped "Neon Leon" and named Norton the new titlist.

Young was never the same after that disappointment, but he still took the hard route when choosing his fights. In 1980, at the age of 32, he withstood the best of Gerry Cooney's left hooks, but was stopped on cuts. Reduced to a steppingstone by then, he nonetheless refused to be stopped, even against young, strong unbeatens on the rise. He went the distance with Greg Page at age 33, Tony Tubbs at 34, and Tony Tucker at 35.

It was those late stages of Young's 19-year career, when anybody could hit him—and not the showdowns against the superstar assassins—that likely resulted in the symptoms of punch-drunkenness he displayed in recent years. Retirement wasn't kind to Young, to say the least. The approximately $2-million in career earnings evaporated. According to his cousin, ex-middleweight contender Boogaloo Watts, Young waged battles with drugs. He worked as a roofer for a while and, reportedly, at an auto repair shop for $20 a day. Those who knew Young said he often appeared disheveled.

The last time this columnist saw him was a couple of years ago, at a sports collectibles show in New Jersey. Young was wearing a cheap-looking shirt on his back that afternoon and all of the tough days and nights of his life on his face. He was making something like $20 per autograph, while, at the very same time on the opposite end of the convention center, an Ali signature was fetching 10 times as much. Through it all, though, Young was displaying the one thing we never remembered seeing too often when he was fighting: a smile. It never left his face that day, and you sensed that the recognition, the fans telling him he got jobbed against Ali and Norton then asking him to sign their photo, was the lone annuity still paying Young dividends.

How many times, one wonders, did he regret not going right after an Ali who'd left all of himself in Manila and couldn't punch anymore? If he could do it all over again, would Young have kept ducking through the ropes as though looking for his tag team partner? During those years when Mike Tyson was being labeled "invincible," did Young ever think back to Foreman hitting the deck in Puerto Rico and wish he was young enough to test "Kid Dynamite's" patience and stamina?

There won't be any induction ceremony for Young in Canastota, and there's no world championship belt with his name engraved on it sitting behind glass somewhere. But among those of us old enough to remember him swallowing the bombs without falling, making Foreman find the Lord and giving others plenty of hell, and squaring off with Ali, Lyle, Foreman, and Norton within a 17-month span back in the '70s, Young will always command respect and admiration.

Whoever said youth is wasted on the young wasn't talking about Jimmy. ■

CAMERA CLICKS

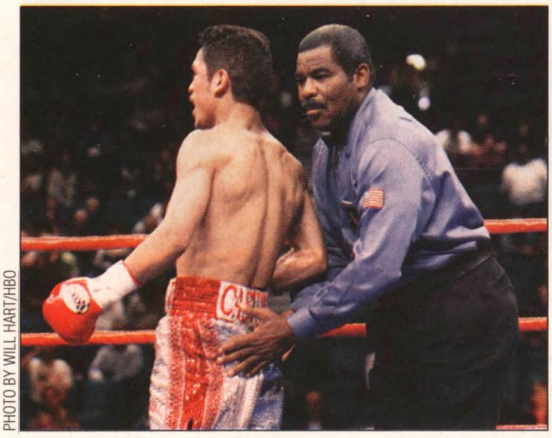


PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Some referees take points away from fighters who break the rules; others like to punish the offending boxer with a firm spanking. Third man Robert Byrd went with the latter method to teach a lesson to Martin Castillo during the junior bantam titlist's recent decision win over Eric Morel. (Hey, at least we resisted the urge to go with a cop-a-cheap-feel joke.)

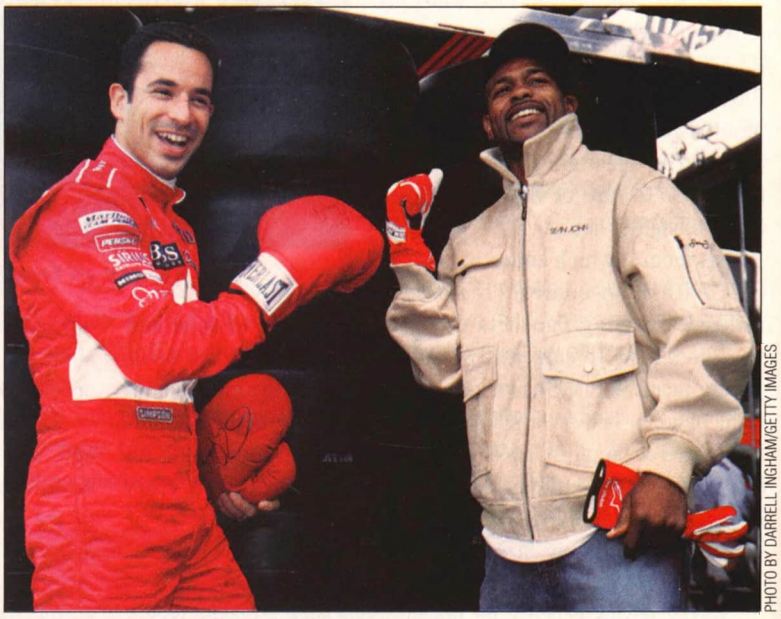


PHOTO BY DARRELL INGHAM/GETTY IMAGES

We know you're just clowning around for a publicity photo, but still, don't let that glove get too close to Roy's chin, okay? Racecar driver Helio Castroneves and boxing great Roy Jones tried on each other's mitt-wear during practice for the IRL IndyCar Series Toyota Indy 300 in Homestead, Florida, in March, an event for which Jones was the Grand Marshal.

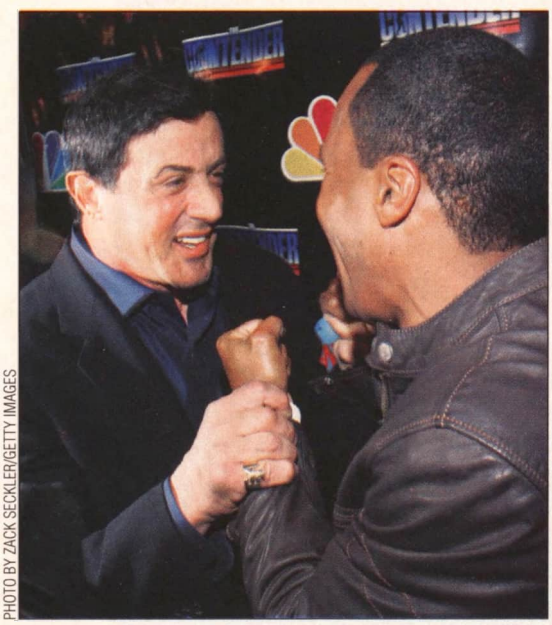


PHOTO BY ZACK SECKLER/GETTY IMAGES

Here's a defensive technique you can't implement with gloves on: Sylvester Stallone, suddenly remembering that he actually has no idea how to fight, wraps his paws around Sugar Ray Leonard's wrists to prevent the legendary ex-fighter from putting a whupping on him. The two stars of The Contender *are pictured at the New York viewing party for the premiere of their well-received reality show.*

PHOTO BY DOUG BENC/GETTY IMAGES

Has Muhammad Ali become a political prop? Sadly, to a certain degree, he has, and Los Angeles mayoral candidate and former police chief Bernard Parks gave the cheesy thumbs-up as he posed with "The Greatest" at the L.A. marathon in March. Still, whatever the circumstances, it's nice to see Ali out in public, doing his thing, and, most importantly, sporting a smile.

PHOTO BY PAUL HAWTHORNE/GETTY IMAGES

Wouldn't it be fun if all boxers gave themselves as unflatteringly honest a nickname as rapper Fat Joe gave himself? For example, the boxer in this photo with him might call herself "Living Off My Last Name Laila." We'd also have "Quittin' Acelino," "Delusional Evander," and "A Long Way From Welterweight Oscar." Wouldn't names like that be refreshing?

PHOTO BY MAURIZIO GAMBARINI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Paying respects: No current fighters idolized former heavyweight champion Max Schmeling more than the Klitschko brothers, and here we see Wladimir exiting the Hall of Famer's funeral on March 1 in Hamburg, Germany. At one time, it was thought that Wladimir would follow in Schmeling's footsteps as king of the heavyweight division. As it turns out, Klitschko has instead opted to honor his hero by frequently imitating Schmeling's rematch performance against Joe Louis.

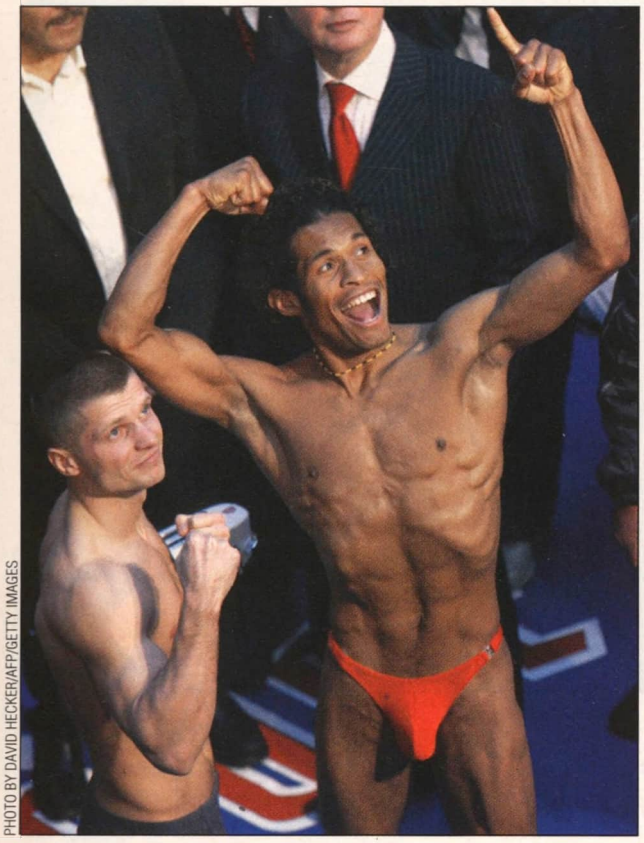
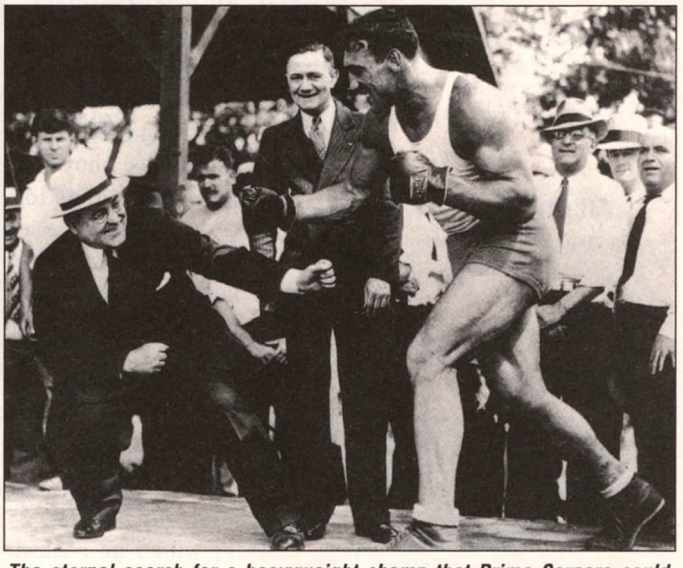


PHOTO BY DAVID HECKER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

No, we haven't slipped a photo from a male revue into "Camera Clicks" by accident. That's Mexican bantamweight Julio Zarate sporting a G-string at the weigh-in for his recent fight in Germany with Wladimir Sidorenko. Zarate went on to lose the fight in convincing fashion, but at least he went home with a hip-full of dollar bills as a supplement to his purse from the fight.

NOSTALGIA CORNER



The eternal search for a heavyweight champ that Primo Carnera could beat reached an all-time low when "Da Preem's" mob connections lured a bespectacled Tommy Burns out of retirement in 1934. That's former lightweight king Willie Richie in the center. He also auditioned for the job, but proved too tough.

NEW FACES

RAPHAEL BUTLER

Heavyweight

By Joe Santoliquito

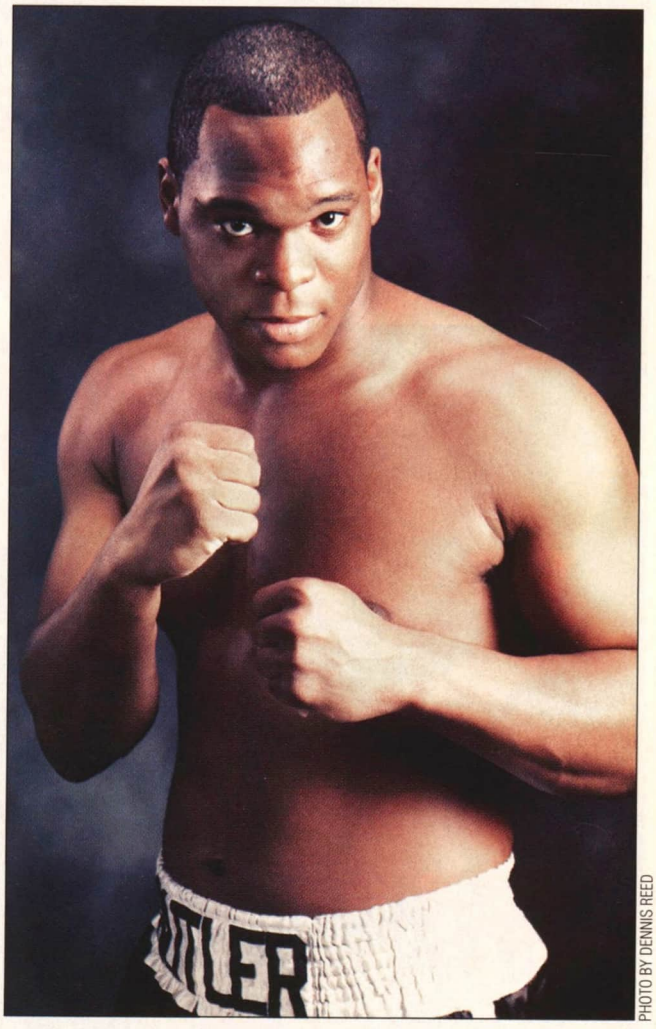


PHOTO BY DENNIS REED

PRO RECORD

2004		
June 19	Royphy Solieau, Reno, NV	KO 3
July 18	Victor Ortiz, Temecula, CA	KO 1
Aug. 19	Eric Lindsey, Houston, TX	No-Contest 1
Sept. 11	Arthur Boyles, Fridley, MN	KO 1
Oct. 2	Harold Johnson, Hinckely, MN	KO 1
Oct. 10	Ross Brantley, Black Hawk, CO	KO 1
Oct. 29	Glen Morgan, Rochester, MN	KO 1
Nov. 12	David Cleage, St. Paul, MN	KO 1
Nov. 19	Marcelo Aravena, Mandan, ND	Tech. Win 4
Dec. 18	Marcelo Aravena, Fridley	W 4
2005		
Jan. 29	Brian Sargent, Black Hawk	KO 1

FIGHTS	WON	LOST	DRAW	KOs
11	10	0	0	8

Video games were always within an arm's reach. They were Raphael Butler's way of escaping into imaginary worlds, his way of sneaking into dangerous places and evading the bad guys just in time to find the lifesaver and advance to level five.

But one afternoon as Butler was clicking away with a friend, his video world suffered a reality crack. That warm barrel of a 12-gauge shotgun against his left cheek was real. Very real. So was the threat: "Join our gang, or die!"

Butler was just 13, yet had the courage to reply, "If you were going to kill me, you would have shot me already." The older kid holding the shotgun was a member of the Bloods, more noted for their hard-core ways in South Central Los Angeles than Rochester, Minnesota. Butler was able to slink away, leaving the gun-toting kid standing there, his bluff called.

After hearing that story, it's easy to understand why the 6'4", 250-pound Butler, 10-0 (8) with 1 no-contest, isn't afraid of anything that goes on inside a boxing ring. He knows what it's like to have a shotgun pointed at his head.

"I can still see the shotgun; I'll never forget the way that gun looked," Butler, now 21, recalled. "That was the closest I came to something serious. I suppose it is actually a miracle I'm still here. I used to be with the wrong guys in Minneapolis, part of the Bloods. I picked and chose who I hung around from there."

Not long after, the heavyweight picked up

(Continued on page 60)

International Boxing Hall of Fame

Limited Autograph Souvenirs

Boxing Greats Helping Support the Museum

Certificate of Authenticity accompanies each item

EVERLAST SPEED BAG

$195

Autographed by 25 "Greats"

Arguello ★ Barkley ★ Basilio ★ Buchanan ★ Chuvalo ★ Cuevas ★ Dundee ★ Fenech ★ Fullmer ★ Griffith ★ Hagler ★ LaMotta ★ Lopez ★ McGirt ★ Nelson ★ Norton ★ Olivares ★ Ortiz ★ Palomino ★ Pryor ★ Qawi ★ Stracey ★ Tapia ★ Torres ★ Ward ★

GIANT GOLD GLOVE

$225

Autographed by 25 "Greats"

Arguello ★ Basilio ★ Buchanan ★ Chuvalo ★ Cuevas ★ Dundee ★ Fenech ★ Fullmer ★ Griffith ★ Hagler ★ LaMotta ★ Lopez ★ McGirt ★ Nelson ★ Norton ★ Olivares ★ Ortiz ★ Palomino ★ Pryor ★ Qawi ★ Stracey ★ Tapia ★ Tarver ★ Torres ★ Ward

AZUMAH NELSON

Hall of Fame Champion on Everlast glove

Class of 2004

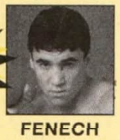
$85

★ Limited Quantity ★

NELSON & FENECH

Both champions on Everlast glove

$105



NELSON FENECH

★ Limited Quantity ★

AUTOGRAPH GLOVES

$85

(single autograph on Everlast glove)

★ Earnie Shavers
★ Carmen Basilio
★ Leon Spinks
★ Michael Spinks
★ Aaron Pryor
★ Christy Martin
★ Willie Pep
★ Ken Norton
★ Virgil Hill
★ Kid Gavilan
★ Ken Buchanan
★ Alexis Arguello
★ Buddy McGirt
★ Pipino Cuevas
★ Nino Benvenuti
★ "Irish" Micky Ward
★ Carlos Palomino
★ Ricardo "Finito" Lopez
★ Sir Henry Cooper
★ Dwight Qawi
★ Tommy Morrison
★ Angelo Dundee
★ Johnny Tapia
★ Andrew Golota
★ Livingstone Bramble
★ James "Buster" Douglas
★ Danny "Little Red" Lopez

PALOMINO

WARD

MORRISON

TAPIA

COMBINATION GLOVE

(two autographs on Everlast glove)

$105

★ Basilio - Gavilan
★ Basilio - Saxton
★ Basilio - Fullmer
★ Arguello - Pryor
★ Basilio - DeMarco
★ Benvenuti - Griffith

★ Mexican Boxing Greats ★
Olivares, Cuevas, Napoles & Ricardo "Finito" Lopez on Everlast glove

TODAY'S STARS

(single autograph on Everlast glove)

$85

★ Winky Wright
★ Cory Spinks
★ Acelino "Popo" Freitas
★ Antonio "Magic Man" Tarver

CHAMPIONSHIP GLOVE

All 21 autographs on Everlast glove

$195

Arguello ★ Basilio ★ Buchanan ★ Cuevas ★ Fenech ★ Fullmer ★ Griffith ★ Hagler ★ Lopez ★ McGirt ★ Nelson ★ Norton ★ Olivares ★ Ortiz ★ Palomino ★ Pryor ★ Qawi ★ Stracey ★ Tapia ★ Torres ★ Ward ★

EVERLAST CORNER POST

$275

Autographed by 25 greats:

Arguello ★ Barkley ★ Basilio ★ Buchanan ★ Chuvalo ★ Cuevas ★ Dundee ★ Fenech ★ Fullmer ★ Griffith ★ Hagler ★ Lopez ★ McGirt ★ Nelson ★ Norton ★ Olivares ★ Ortiz ★ Palomino ★ Pryor ★ Qawi ★ Stracey ★ Tapia ★ Tarver ★ Torres ★ Ward ★

BOXING ROBE

25 autographs on Everlast robe

$275

Arguello ★ Barkley ★ Basilio ★ Buchanan ★ Chuvalo ★ Cuevas ★ Dundee ★ Fenech ★ Fullmer ★ Griffith ★ Hagler ★ LaMotta ★ Lopez ★ McGirt ★ Nelson ★ Norton ★ Olivares ★ Ortiz ★ Palomino ★ Pryor ★ Qawi ★ Stracey ★ Tapia ★ Torres ★ Ward

HEAVYWEIGHT GLOVE

6 heavyweight autographs on Everlast glove

★ James "Buster" Douglas
★ Ken Norton
★ Leon Spinks
★ Sir Henry Cooper
★ George Chuvalo
★ Earnie Shavers

$150

Phone Orders: (315) 697-7095
Fax (315) 697-5356

Make checks payable to:
BOXING HALL OF FAME
1 Hall of Fame Drive
Canastota, NY 13032

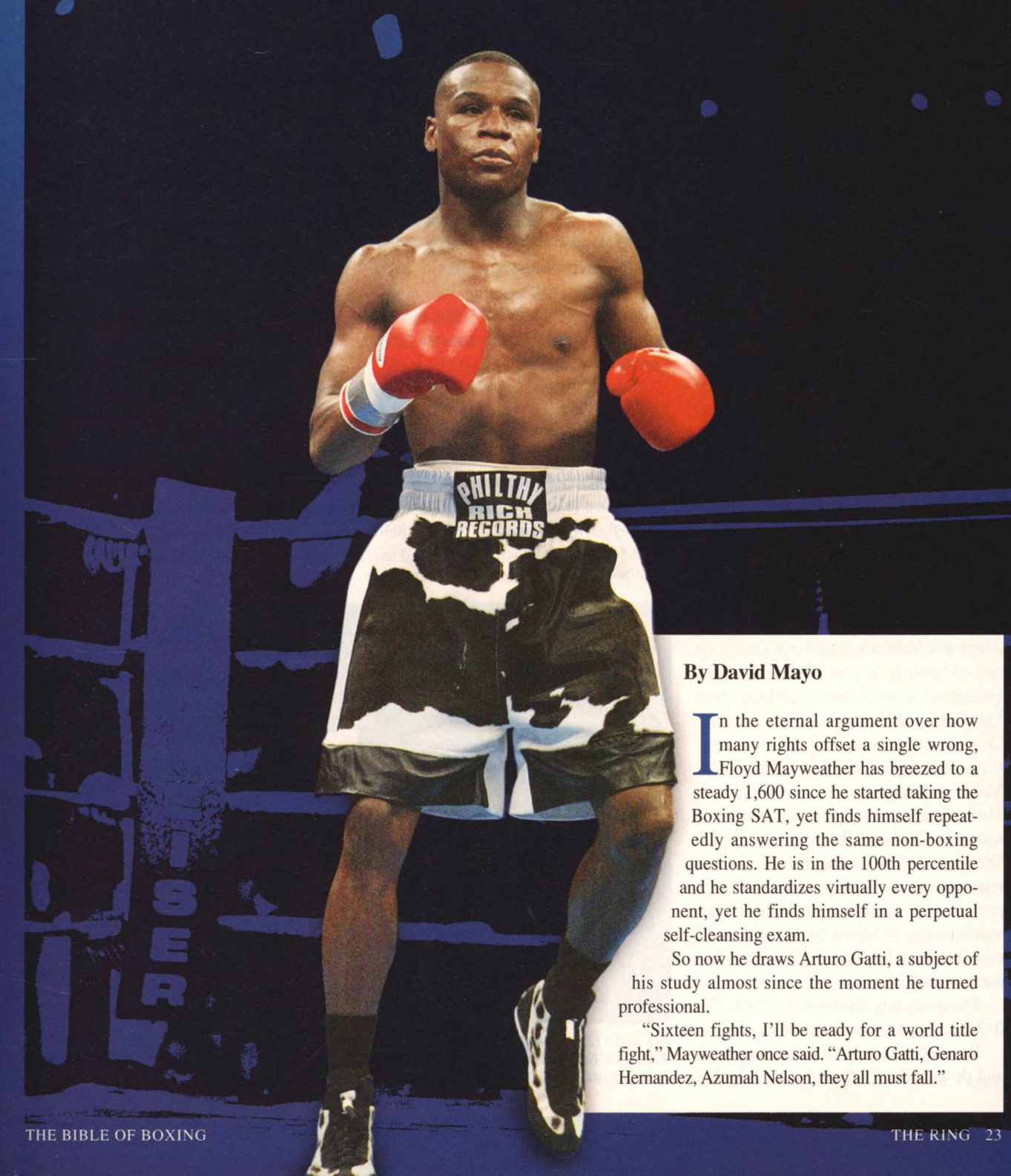
Please add 8.25% Sales Tax and $8.00 per item for shipping in U.S.
Call for International shipping rates

IF YOU BELIEVE

PHOTOS BY AL BELLO/GETTY IMAGES

MAYWEATHER ...

"I'm going to beat Gatti. I'm going to talk to him while I beat him. I'm going to talk to the reporters and the announcers while I beat him. And in between rounds, I want to borrow his cell phone, so I can talk to a real, live Arturo Gatti fan while I beat him."



By David Mayo

In the eternal argument over how many rights offset a single wrong, Floyd Mayweather has breezed to a steady 1,600 since he started taking the Boxing SAT, yet finds himself repeatedly answering the same non-boxing questions. He is in the 100th percentile and he standardizes virtually every opponent, yet he finds himself in a perpetual self-cleansing exam.

So now he draws Arturo Gatti, a subject of his study almost since the moment he turned professional.

"Sixteen fights, I'll be ready for a world title fight," Mayweather once said. "Arturo Gatti, Genaro Hernandez, Azumah Nelson, they all must fall."

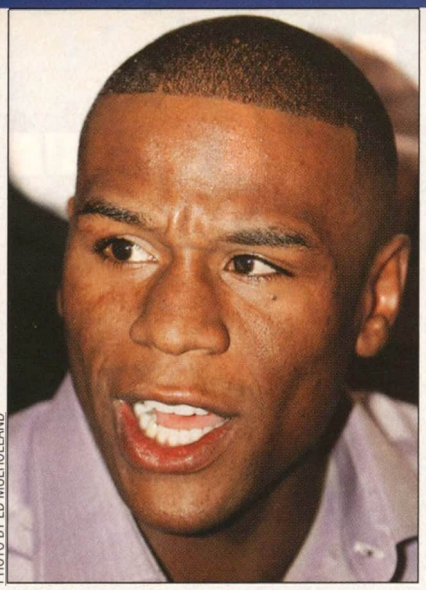


PHOTO BY ED MULHOLLAND

When Gatti failed to show at a New York City press conference, Mayweather threw his trash talk into high gear. Besides telling the media what he was going to do to Gatti inside the ring, he also blamed his no-contest plea in a Michigan assault case on his rival.

That was March 1997, and the declaration seemed precocious from a youngster with four professional fights. Mayweather was off by one on his predictions—he fought 17 times before beating Hernandez, and he never fought Nelson before the great Ghanaian retired—but if he beats Gatti all these years later, two out of three ain't bad.

As right as Mayweather has been about himself, that's how wrong so many people have been about Gatti.

Angel Manfredy beat Gatti in January 1998 by gashing his left eyelid in the first round and applying a steady follow-up until the fight was stopped in the eighth. Afterward, Manfredy leaned into Gatti's ear and whispered, "I have taken your soul." Gatti lost four of his next nine fights after Manfredy, and his career was in jeopardy. That was before Gatti, 39-6 (30), was resurrected under the tutelage of trainer Buddy McGirt, before he twice avenged his loss to Micky Ward, before wins over previously unbeaten Gianluca Branco and Leonard Dorin, and before sending James Leija into retirement. A career once on the rocks now provides the foundation upon which Mayweather hopes to rebuild his own popularity, even if he regards Gatti as nothing more than a springboard.

The question is whether Mayweather, 33-0 (22), is diving into an empty pool.

People don't like their heroes dethroned, and despite Gatti's flawed record, he has become a fighter of the people. The Mayweather fight was placed in Atlantic City expressly for the purpose of exploiting Gatti's marketability. If Mayweather does what he intends, it will not be a crowd-pleasing night.

"I'm going to beat him," Mayweather said. "I'm going to talk to him while I beat him. I'm going to talk to the reporters and the announcers while I beat him. And in between rounds, I want to borrow his cell phone, so I can talk to a real, live Arturo Gatti fan while I beat him."

What raised Mayweather's ire during protracted negotiations, which ultimately cleared the way for a June 25 fight at Atlantic City's Boardwalk Hall, were some of the circumstances relating to his no-contest plea to a misdemeanor assault charge he vehemently denies. The charge stemmed from a 2003 bar fight in his hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Mayweather put himself in a delicate position by skipping his December 2004 trial to remain in training for his January win over Henry Bruseles.

Mayweather blames Gatti for unnecessarily bringing personal legal issues into the professional arena.

"I'm truly upset because I would have fought my Grand Rapids case. I knew I was not guilty. I put that on my kids' lives; I was not guilty. But I pleaded no contest just to get this fight," Mayweather claimed. "I'm mad I pleaded that no contest. I didn't want to do that. I was not guilty. I didn't want to do that. So he's going to pay for that."

Whether that will help advance his marketability presents a peculiar issue for the unbeaten Mayweather. The assault conviction in Michigan was his fifth in three years, all misdemeanors. He still faces a felony domestic battery trial later this year in Las Vegas, though the alleged victim recanted her accusation at a preliminary hearing last year. Prosecutor Alexandra Chrysanthis acknowledged last year that a conviction would be difficult without a credible victim witness. And one of Mayweather's attorneys, John Hornewer of Las Vegas, said he finds it extremely unlikely that Mayweather will be convicted.

The stigma of such a charge, which carries a mandatory minimum one-year state prison sentence if convicted, is difficult to measure. Emanuel Steward, the Hall of Fame trainer and HBO analyst, said Mayweather's priors aren't enough to prohibit him from raising his profile, as long as the fighter avoids prison on the lone pending charge.

"I honestly don't think boxing fans care too much about the legal stuff," Steward said. "It may have hurt Floyd as far as expanding his marketability to fringe fans and general overall sports fans, which is how you build a pay-per-view audience. But boxing fans just see his skill.

"If Floyd beats Gatti convincingly, with the competition available to him at 140 pounds right now, there's still time for him to become the megastar, in terms of more pay-per-view fights and major fights. Floyd just has to do the right things to make that happen outside the ring, because there's no

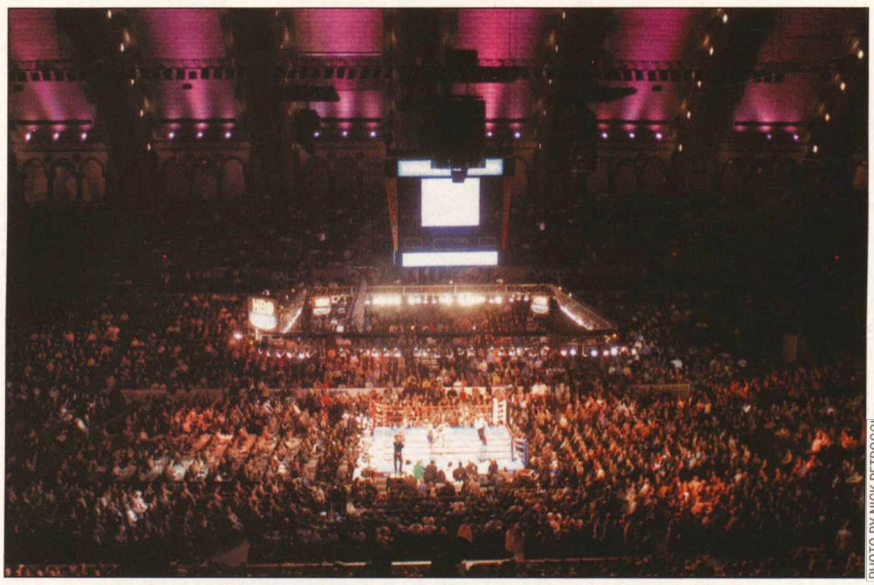


PHOTO BY NICK PETROCCI

The main reason Gatti-Mayweather is taking place in Atlantic City is that Gatti has filled the Boardwalk Hall for his last five fights. Even if Mayweather wins impressively, it's doubtful he will enjoy the same drawing power. That is, unless fans come hoping to see him lose.

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Mayweather cruised to an eighth-round TKO over outclassed Henry Bruseles in his most recent fight, but exacerbated his legal difficulties by skipping a court date in Michigan in order to train for the fight. The delay in settling the case almost scuttled the Gatti fight.

doubt about his ability."

Mayweather has not earned less than $2-million for any fight since 2001, and will gross $3.1-million plus a percentage of pay-per-view profits for fighting Gatti. So the self-inflicted damage to his career has not prohibited him from being among boxing's elite earners. The problem is that his sketchy marketability, combined with exquisite skills, make fighting Mayweather a marginal proposition. Mayweather needs big-name opponents to elevate him to the pay-per-view realm on a regular basis, but until his reputation improves, why should big-name fighters take such a risk?

Mayweather still wants Oscar De La Hoya, who hardly has acknowledged the blatant callout since frequent assertions a couple years ago that he would never fight Mayweather out of respect for Floyd Mayweather Sr., "The Golden Boy's" trainer.

Kostya Tszyu, the 140-pound champion, fights for Showtime, which could make that fight unworkable due to Mayweather's affiliation with HBO. Mayweather could go up to welterweight to fight champion Zab Judah rather than De La Hoya, but Mayweather and Judah have been friends since their amateur days, and Mayweather admits he would prefer not to fight him.

Mayweather could go on just as he has throughout his career, calling out everyone, beating everyone lined up in front of him, and paving his own first-ballot path to Canastota. Paving a path into fans' hearts, even assuming an impressive victory over Gatti, has proven a far more difficult chore.

"How will the fans react after I beat him? They'll tell me what they've been telling me, that I'm the best. What do I have to do [to win fans]? I have to keep racking up victories," Mayweather said. "They want exciting fights. They want guys who will take that chance, take that risk, and go to the different weight classes. Everything I'm doing I'm doing for the fans."

Gatti, who at 33 is five years older than Mayweather, knows all about career reclamation. And to his credit, despite Mayweather's criticisms, Gatti never ducked the fight. When the negotiation was falling apart, and Main Events and Top Rank were finger-pointing, and Mayweather was stalling his court case, and real and imagined deadlines were being imposed, Gatti remained steadfast.

"Thank goodness for Arturo Gatti," Top Rank President Todd duBoef said in January, "because he's the only one holding this promotion together."

Top Rank suspected Main Events of trying to sabotage the fight. Main Events fired back that Mayweather materially breached his contract, signed in autumn 2004, which required that he clear up his misdemeanor assault case in Michigan before the Gatti promotion could move forward, then by failing to show up at a press conference to announce the match after Gatti's January 29 win over Leija.

Main Events announced it pulled the plug on the fight in early-March, only to have WBC President Jose Sulaiman step in with a threat to push Gatti-Mayweather to purse bids. Within days, the deal was finalized.

Gatti pulled his own no-show at a kick-off press conference in late-March, then scheduled his own press conference the next day. Mayweather called Gatti's move "disrespectful," and said it was, "part of the pattern" employed in weaving a misdemeanor charge into their original fight contracts.

"That's funny to hear Floyd Mayweather talk about being disrespectful," Gatti said. "He broke a contract and we still kept trying to make the fight. They told us he was going to settle his court case and he skipped his trial. They told us he was going to be in Atlantic City and he didn't show up. They told us he would be in court this day and that day, and it didn't happen. Then, after he finally did show up in court, he wouldn't sign a new contract. Hey, that's between him and Bob Arum. I can't help it if they're having problems. But from the very beginning, they were the ones having trouble taking care of their business, not us."

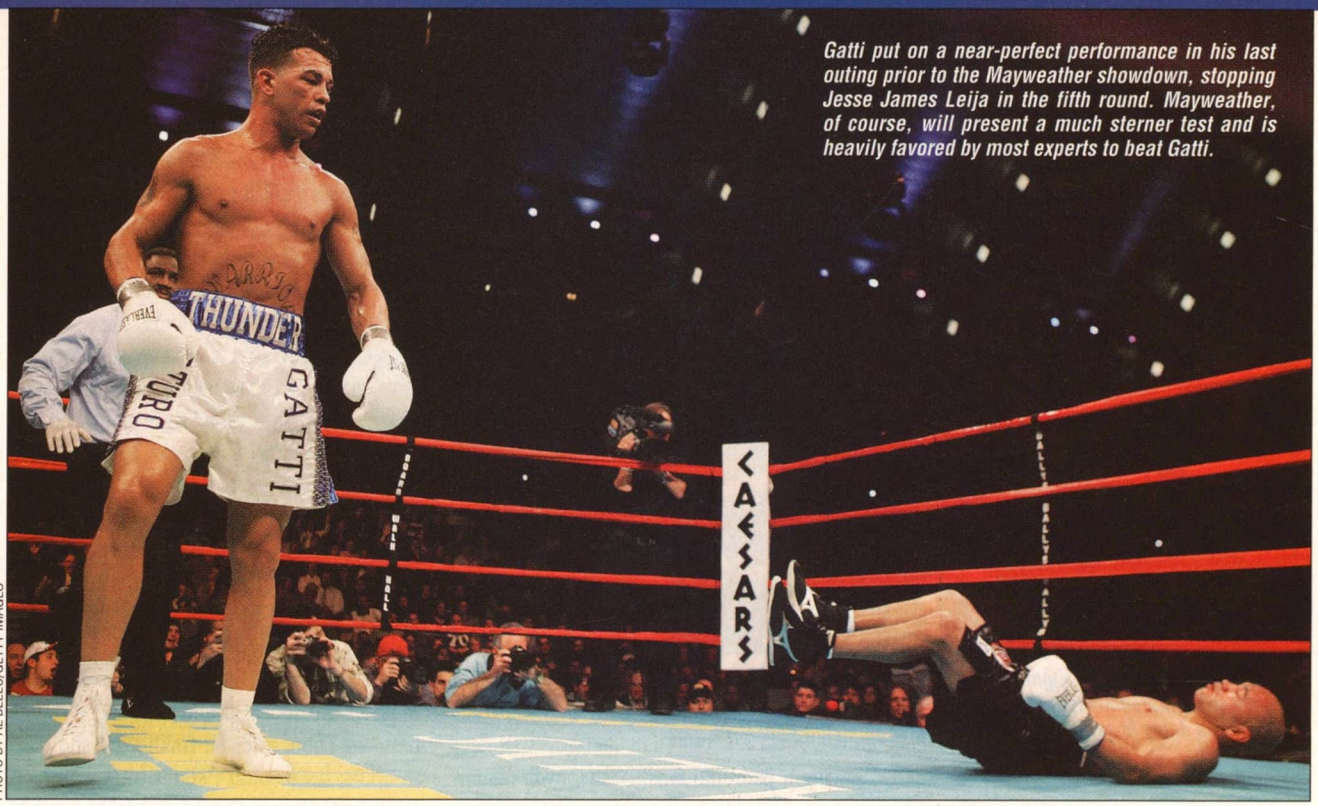
Even after the negotiation was completed, Main Events attorney Pat English openly questioned whether Mayweather would make it to Atlantic City.

"What do you think the odds are," English mused, "of Mayweather actually staying out of trouble between now and June 25?"

That contingency aside, if there is an intangible in Gatti-Mayweather, it could be the man in Gatti's corner. McGirt's hiring coincides with Gatti's career resurgence. He quickly has risen to elite status among trainers, and has experience training his pupils to defeat pound-for-pound kings, as was made evident by Antonio Tarver's 2004 knockout of Roy Jones after a close decision loss in 2003.

"I'm not going to get into it too much, but Mayweather's no secret to anybody," McGirt said. "We've been watching him a long time and we know there are things we can take advantage of. There is no such thing as a perfect fighter. Everyone makes mistakes. People said Antonio Tarver couldn't beat Roy Jones too. We had a game plan for Roy Jones and it worked twice—not once, but twice. We have a game plan for Mayweather too."

Mayweather's fall from grace began



Gatti put on a near-perfect performance in his last outing prior to the Mayweather showdown, stopping Jesse James Leija in the fifth round. Mayweather, of course, will present a much sterner test and is heavily favored by most experts to beat Gatti.

PHOTO BY AL BELLO/GETTY IMAGES

far outside any courtroom, low-lighted by an estrangement from his father in 2000. Floyd Sr. refuses to make overtures toward his son, and vice versa. But despite the father's disdain for his son's actions, the elder Mayweather insisted the 7-2 early underdog has little chance.

"It's always a dangerous fight when a guy can punch, so Gatti's dangerous in that respect," Mayweather Sr. said. "But the only chance Gatti has is a lucky chance. Hit Little Floyd on the chin or the temple, just a

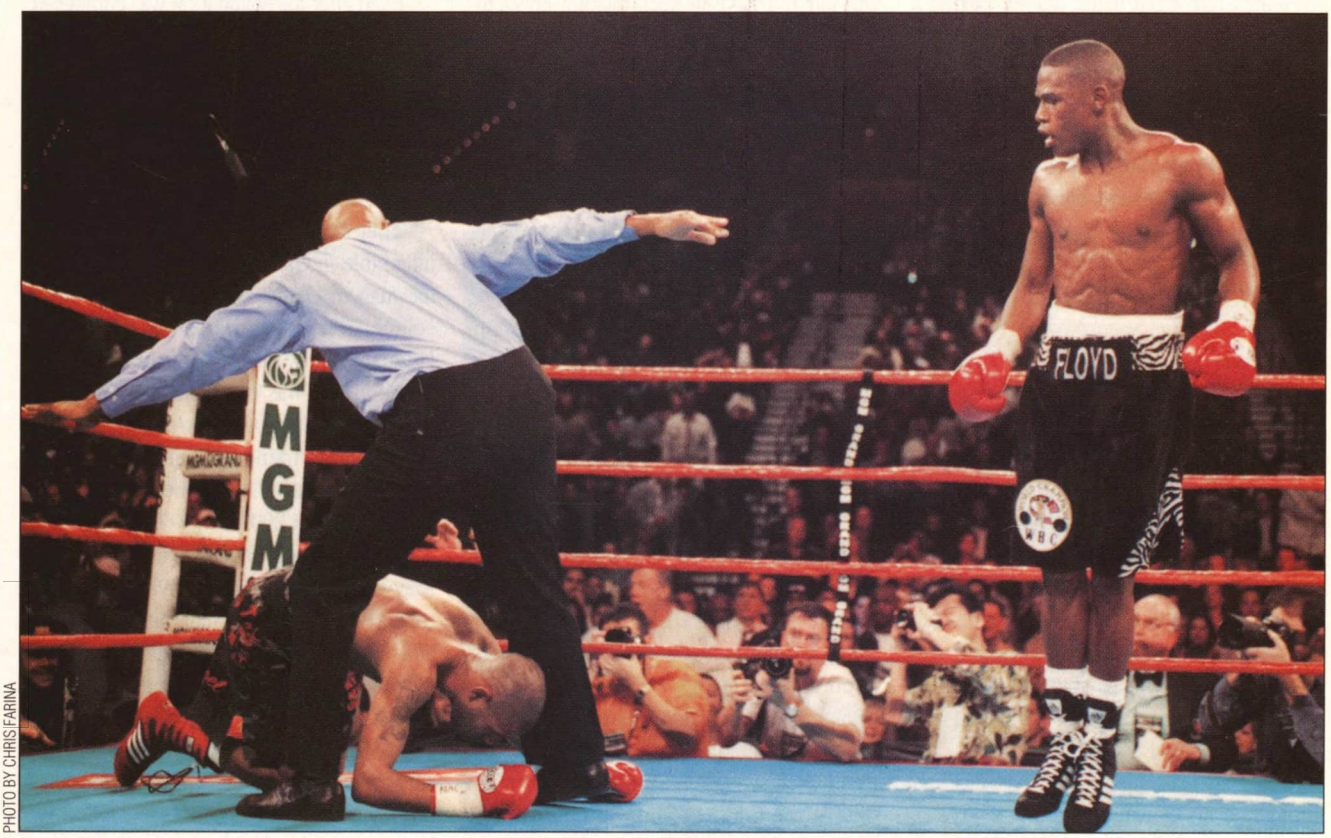


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

When things get personal, as they have between Gatti and Mayweather, "Pretty Boy's" opponents have paid a painful price. Perhaps the best example of that was his 2001 demolition of hard-punching Diego Corrales (pictured), who had traded insults with Mayweather throughout the buildup.

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO/HBO

If Gatti has an edge, it just might be trainer Buddy McGirt, pictured giving last-minute instruction to his pupil prior to the Leonard Dorin fight, which Gatti won via second-round knockout. McGirt has coached several underdogs to upset victories, most significantly Antonio Tarver, who TKO'd Roy Jones.

lucky chance. He's not really in the same class as Little Floyd. They've got to try to do the same thing the last guy (Henry Bruseles) tried—get a small ring. That gives you a chance if you're a slugger. If they're in a big ring, Little Floyd is going to tear him to pieces."

"Pretty Boy" said he never had any doubt about his ability to beat Gatti—not now, not during '98 when Mayweather was THE RING's Fighter of the Year and Gatti went 0-3, and not even when he was a fledgling professional with four fights and Gatti held the IBF 130-pound title.

"Back in 1997, when I first called Arturo Gatti out, guess what—I know when I have a guy I can beat," Mayweather said. "I know when a guy is tailor-made for me. I know when I have a guy who has a certain style I can punish. A guy flat-footed, all those big wild shots, bleeding like that, going down from bodyshots, all kinds of guys knocking him down—*Woo!*—I'm going to punish a guy like that.

"I can outbox the guy. I can outslug the guy. I've been world champion so many years. Nobody has beaten me. There's no way to beat me. There's at least six ways to beat Gatti, because he's been beat six times. And I'm going to show you the seventh way. Ain't no way, in the fight game, a guy with six losses is going to beat me. Period. Ain't no way in hell." ■

David Mayo covers boxing for the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Press and is a regular contributor to this magazine.

GATTI-MAYWEATHER STAFF PICKS

Nigel Collins: Gatti W 12

"Call me crazy if you want, but I think Gatti has a reasonable chance of springing an upset. Like Jose Luis Castillo, who gave Mayweather his toughest fight to date, Gatti is a naturally bigger and stronger man. Moreover, he has the added advantage of having faster hands and feet than Castillo. Factor in Buddy McGirt's proven ability to provide his fighter with a winning fight plan and Arturo's steadfast faith in Buddy, and Mayweather could very well see his undefeated streak end via close decision."

Eric Raskin: Mayweather W 12

"I want to pull the trigger on the upset pick, but I can't quite do it. The talent gap is just a bit too wide even for Gatti's size, strength, and guts to bridge. As great as Gatti's looked lately, let's remember whom he's been beating: Leija, Dorin, Branco, and Ward, all of whom are at least a full level below Mayweather. I give Gatti a puncher's chance, but in all likelihood, Mayweather's technical proficiency and hand speed will be too much and he'll prevail by a comfortable margin."

Joe Santoliquito: Mayweather KO 8

"The last time I thought I was looking at a no-way scenario was when I thought Felix Trinidad would devour Bernard Hopkins when they met in '01. I thought I learned my lesson. Well, I haven't. I just can't conceive of any way Pretty Boy loses. I can't. The other fact I can't erase is that in every major fight Mayweather has been in, he's crushed his opponent. This should be fun while it lasts, but there's no way Gatti will be able to overcome Mayweather's much superior arsenal."

William Dettloff: Mayweather W 12

"Gatti's looked so good lately, he's almost made me forget he isn't on Mayweather's level. He's got a puncher's chance, and if he can land a right hand on Mayweather's chin, who knows? And in boxer/puncher mode, he can stay fairly competitive, I think. But Mayweather's speed and skills should be too much for him. I like Mayweather by a clear-cut but fairly close decision in a surprisingly competitive fight."

Jeff Ryan: Mayweather KO 7 Gatti

"The bad news for Gatti is that he's always had trouble with boxers (Oscar De La Hoya, Ivan Robinson, even Joe Hutchinson). If he wades in and slugs in this bout, he'll get picked apart by sharp counters. And yet, he can't utilize his own respectable technical skills because he'd be playing Mayweather's game, only not as well. The guess here is Gatti comes out firing hooks, one of which drops the 'Pretty Boy' early before he rebounds, takes command, and stops Gatti on cuts."

Back Issues of

Add to your RING collection by ordering from our limited supply of back issues. Single issues are $5 each. Order by the year and save up to 30%. Listed prices include postage and handling. Supplies are limited. To assure fulfillment order today.

Feb. 1983: Michael Dokes: Tainted Champion? Plus: Howard Cosell, Ray Mancini, Bum of the Month Club, Chacon-Limon.

Aug. 1983: Roberto Duran: One "Mas" Time. Plus: Larry Holmes, Colin Jones, Jimmy Montoya, Alexis Arguello, Billy Petrolle, Duran-Moore, Frazier-Bugner, Resto-Collins, Escalera-Hatcher.

Sept. 1983: Sugar Ray Leonard Talks About His Past, Present, And Future. Plus: Panama Lewis, Spinks-Mustafa Muhammad, Hagler-Duran preview, Johnson-Gotch.

Nov. 1983: Gerrie Coetzee: The New Heavyweight Champ Sets His Sights On Holmes. Plus: Alexis Arguello, Murray Sutherland, James J. Braddock, Muhammad Ali.

Feb. 1984: Don King Talks And Talks And Talks. Plus: Leonard's return, Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, 1983 quotes, Marvin Hagler, Johnny Bratton, Gerald Hayes, Hagler-Duran color.

June 1984: Bumphus, Lockridge, Duva: "That Championship Year." Plus: Ferdie Pacheco, Harry Arroyo, Holmes-Coetzee preview, Pipino Cuevas, Aaron Pryor, Battling Nelson-Joe Gans, Witherspoon-Page.

July 1984: Bazooka's Aim Is True: Gomez Shoots Down LaPorte In The Battle For San Juan. Plus: Michael Spinks, Vinny Pazienza, Tyrone Crawley, Leonard's comeback, Chandler-Sandoval, Hagler-Roldan.

Aug. 1984: RING Olympic Special. Plus: Bramble-Mancini, Hatcher-Bumphus, Mark Breland, Sugar Ray Leonard, Albert Davila, Bonecrusher-Bruno.

Oct. 1984: The Beast From The East: John Mugabi Strikes Terror Into The Hearts Of Men. Plus: Olympics, Bill Costello, Davey Moore, Wilfred Benitez, King's heavyweights.

Jan. 1985: Holmes-Bonecrusher Color Action. Plus: Gerry Cooney, pro debuts (Breland, Hill, Taylor, Biggs, Whitaker, Holyfield), Santos-Medal, Meza-Garza.

Feb. 1985: Showdown: Page Clobbers Coetzee For WBA Title. Plus: Larry Holmes, lightweights, Cooney-Chaplin, McCallum-Minchillo.

March 1985: Thomas Hearns—Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Annual ratings, Fight, Upset, Round, Comeback, and Prospect of the Year.

May 1985: The Rematch In Reno: Bramble-Mancini Color Action. Plus: Donald Curry, Aaron Pryor, McGuigan-LaPorte.

June 1985: Holmes' Last Hurrah? Holmes-Bey Color Action. Plus: Holmes vs. all-time greats, Paul-Arroyo, 1901.

Aug. 1985: Seven Elected To THE RING Hall Of Fame (Jose Napoles, Jake LaMotta, Panama Al Brown, Manuel Ortiz, Young Stribling, Thomas Jackling, Lord Lonsdale). Plus: Spinks-Holmes preview, Barry McGuigan.

Oct. 1985: The "Macho Man" Rides Again. Plus: Jeff Fenech, Berbick-Green, John E. Garcia, Dwight Muhammad Qawi, McCallum-Braxton.

Nov. 1985: Will Hagler Feast On The Beast? Plus: Hagler-Mugabi & Hearns-Shuler previews, Lonnie Smith, Pintor-Meza, Chuck Hull, Benitez-Moley.

Dec. 1985: Michael Spinks: Against All Odds. Plus: Curry-McCrory preview, McGuigan-Taylor, Alexis Arguello, Michael Olajide, Chavez-Pratchett.

Jan. 1986: In Search Of A Heavyweight Champion. Plus: Azumah Nelson, Arguello-Jefferson, Olympic update, Chicago boxing.

May 1986: Hagler vs. Mugabi: Marvelous Marvin Tames The Beast. Plus: Marvin Johnson, McGuigan-Cabrera, Bramble-Crawley, Tyson-Ferguson, 10 worst decisions.

June 1986: Barry's Back In The USA: McGuigan Breathes A Breath Of Fresh Air Into American Fight Scene. Plus: Bobby Czyz, Robbie Sims, Qawi-Holyfield preview, Berbick-Thomas, Bruno-Coetzee.

Aug. 1986: Is Sugar Ray Still Sweet? Plus: Lloyd Honeyghan, Tyson-Green, Cooney-Gregg, Hall of Fame (Eder Jofre, Benny Lynch, Bud Taylor, Sam McVey, Nat Langham, John Chambers), Bernardo Pinango.

Sept. 1986: Gerry Cooney vs. Mike Tyson: Who Would Win? Plus: Cruz-McGuigan, Hearns-Medal, Tyson-Gross, Sims-Duran.

Dec. 1986: The Weekend That Shook The Boxing World. Rosario-Bramble & Honeyghan-Curry. Plus: Butch Lewis interview, Buster Drayton, Hector Camacho, Jake LaMotta.

June 1987: Vinny Paz: Phenom Or Phony? Plus: Tyson-Bonecrusher, Mark Breland, Brian Mitchell, Evander Holyfield, Czyz-Edwards, Olajide-Lee, Curry-Montgomery.

July 1987: Spinks-Cooney: The Fight That Refused To Die. Plus: The new RING ratings, Terry Marsh, George Foreman's return, Khaosai Galaxy, Hearns-Andries, Whitaker-Mayweather.

Sept. 1987: Michael Olajide: The Look Of The Future? Plus: Tyson-Thomas, Jeff Fenech, middleweight muddle, Tsuyoshi Hamada, Juan Roldan, Harold Knight.

Nov. 1987: Tyson Wins Heavyweight Triple Crown. Plus: McCallum-Curry, Carlos Monzon interview, triple champions, Orlin & Terry Norris, Ramirez-Alli, Fenech-Richardson, Matthew Hilton.

Dec. 1987: Spinks & Lewis: Boxing's Beastie Boys. Plus: Starling-Breland, Ramzi Hassan, Honeyghan-Hatcher, Holyfield-Ocasio.

Jan. 1988: Darrin Van Horn—Million Dollar Baby? Plus: Evander Holyfield, Hill-Stewart, Juan Coggi, great hookers, AIDS.

Feb. 1988: Gold Outshines Glitter: Tate Tops Olajide. Plus: Tyson-Biggs, Kalambay-Barkley, Hearns-Roldan, fights we'd like to see.

March 1988: Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns: "Now I Own History." Plus: Lockridge & Mayweather, Tony Burton, Julio Cesar Chavez, blood.

April 1988: Evander Holyfield: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Special year-end awards, Holyfield-Qawi II, Foreman-Sekorski, Hill-Angulo.

May 1988: George Foreman: "I Can Beat Tyson." Plus: Tyson-Holmes, Jesse Benavides, Showtime, no-knockout artists.

Sept. 1988: Sugar Ray: Here He Comes Again! Plus: Andries-Czyz, Kid Chocolate, Don Dunphy, Don Lalonde.

Oct. 1988: Mike Tyson: What Price Glory? Plus: Tyson-Spinks, Hearns-Barkley, Davey Moore.

Nov. 1988: Donny Lalonde: "Sugar Ray is Out Of His Mind!" Plus: Hall of Fame selections (Carlos Ortiz, Joe Brown, Billy Graham, Cus D'Amato, Jimmy Jacobs), Nunn-Tate, Molinares-Starling, Honeyghan-Chung, '88 Olympians.

Jan. 1989: Meldrick Taylor: Philly Phenom. Plus: Marvin Hagler, Alex Wallau, Taylor-McGirt, Olympic results.

Feb. 1989: Julio Cesar Chavez. Plus: Chavez-Ramirez, all-time lightweight ratings, Louie Espinoza, Simon Brown, Roger Mayweather.

March 1989: Hearns Next For Sugar Ray? Plus: Leonard-Lalonde, Prince Charles Williams, Hearns-Kinchen, Nunn-Roldan, Hines-Hilton.

May 1989: The Best Of '88. Plus: Year-end awards, Evander Holyfield, Pryor-Morales, Fenech-Navarro.

Feb. 1990: Mike Tyson: Riddick Bowe & Ray Mercer Take Aim. Plus: Bobby Czyz, Gerry Cooney, Chuck Wepner, Antonio Esparragoza, Roman-Laciar.

March 1990: The '80s—Great Fights, Great Fighters (color). Plus: Jeff Harding, Evander Holyfield, Pete Rademacher, Sharkey-McCoy.

April 1990: Pernell Whitaker: Fighter Of The Year (color). Plus: Tiger Flowers, Duran-Leonard, Chavez-Taylor preview, Jorge Paez, Ali-Cooper.

May 1990: Big George Talks Tough: "Tyson Won't Be That Difficult!" Plus: Ed Hopson, Russian fighters, grudge wars, Archie Moore, Kid Berg, Marcel Cerdan, Chavez-Cortes.

June 1990: Buster! How James Douglas Shocked The World. Plus: Michael Moorer, Camacho-Paez, Tommy Farr, excuses, Dick Tiger, Ruben Olivares-Jeff Chandler.

July 1990: "I'm Hungrier Than Ever Before," By Evander Holyfield. Plus: James Toney, Buddy McGirt, Glenwood Brown, Aaron Davis, Michael Carbajal, Jorge Paez, Kid Gavilan, Mark Breland, Ali-Liston II (color).

Sept. 1990: Marvin Hagler—Can He Resist The Irresistible Temptation? Plus: Thomas Hearns, Sanchez-Saddler, Paul Banke, puncher vs. chin, Beau Jack, Robinson-LaMotta (color).

Nov. 1990: Tyson vs. Foreman. Can Iron Mike Stop The Blast From The Past? Plus: Bruce Seldon, best chins, Sullivan-Kilrain (color), Azumah Nelson, LaStarza.

Dec. 1990: Exclusive Annual Report: The State Of The Game. Plus: Douglas-Holyfield preview, Julio Cesar Chavez, Joe Grim, Whitaker-Nazario, Rosi-Van Horn, Benny Leonard, Douglas-Tyson (color).

Feb. 1991: Boxing On TV—Now You'll Pay! Plus: Ismael Laguna, Tommy Morrison in *Rocky V*, Reggie Tuur, Chiquita Gonzalez, Harold Green, Joe Louis.

April 1991: Julio Cesar Chavez—Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Tyson-Stewart, James Leija, Wilfred Benitez, Pedro Decima, Moore-Bassey.

June 1991: Pain, Frustration, Confidence, And Hope: Meldrick Taylor's Life After Chavez. Plus: Foreman-Holyfield preview, Norris-Leonard, David Kamau, Freddie Steele, Bennie Briscoe, Leonard's career (color).

July 1991: Tyson's Title Hopes: He Ain't What He Used To Be ... But It's Not Gonna Matter. Plus: Eusebio Pedroza, Myung Woo Yuh, Willie Meehan, Hearns-Hill preview, computer junior welterweight tournament, Gomez-Fenech, controversial heavyweight finishes (color).

Aug. 1991: Foreman Gives Holyfield A Fight ... And The World A Thrill (color). Plus: Making weight, Harry Greb, Kevin Kelley, Louis-Conn I, Simon Brown-Blocker, Chavez-Duplessis, Sugar Ray Robinson.

Oct. 1991: A Hit Again—How Far Can Thomas Hearns Go? Plus: Battling Levinsky, Oba Carr, Dave McAuley, Muhammad Ali, Lou Ambers, Luther McCarty, ethnic matchups, computer light heavy tournament, Cerdan-Hagler, Rocky Marciano (color).

July 1992: Does Larry Holmes Deserve A Title Shot? Plus: Nelson-Fenech II, Tracy Patterson, Kelley-Dorsey, fat fighters, Buchanan-Camacho, Holmes-Ali (color).

Aug. 1992: Holyfield-Holmes Prefight. Holmes: "I See Me Takin' Holyfield Outta There." Plus: Iran Barkley, Herbie Hide, George Foreman, Tex Cobb, Carnival of Champions, Harry Greb, Haugen-Mancini, Oscar De La Hoya, Gene Tunney (color).

Sept. 1992: Chavez: Unbeaten At 80-0, But What If He Had To Face These Guys? Plus: Bobby Czyz, Genaro Hernandez, Norris-Taylor, Tommy Gibbons, Sugar Ray Leonard's career, Sugar Ray Robinson (color).

Nov. 1992: Is Riddick Bowe The Next Heavyweight Champion? Plus: Morrison-Hipp, Canizales-Chandler, Chavez-Camacho preview, Australia Best of Nation, Tyson speaks from prison, Corbett-Sullivan (color), Tracy Patterson, Pat Barrett, Knockout Brown.

Feb. 1993: America's Tribute To The Brown Bomber: Joe Louis. Plus: Virgil Hill, Junior Jones, Roger Mayweather, Chicago boxing, Orlando Zulueta, Jose Napoles (color).

April 1993: Riddick Bowe—Fighter Of The Year. Plus: "Grand Slam" fight card, Toney-Barkley preview, Morris East, Joe Louis-John Henry Lewis, All-Time Top 10: Argentina, Fighters of the Year (color).

May 1993: Oscar De La Hoya's Sprint To The Title: Is He Good Enough *Now?* Plus: Carbajal-Gonzalez preview, Lennox Lewis, THE RING Poll, Freddie Pendleton.

Aug. 1994: Bowe's Back! Determined To Do It Again. Plus: Eric Griffin, Pernell Whitaker, Ray Mercer, Roger Donoghue, State of the Game (midterm report), All-Time Top 10: The Philippines.

Dec. 1994: Fighting-Mad! James Toney Just Wants To Beat People Up. Plus: Duran & Robinson, Don King, Mike McCallum, injuries (part II), Tom Molineaux.

May 1995: The State Of The Game. Plus: Olzubek & Arbachakov, Gonzalez-Kelley, Pazienza-Duran II, All-Time Top 10: France.

Oct. 1995 (92-Page Special): Mismatch? Don't Tell Peter McNeeley! Plus: Fights we'd like to see, Jo-el Scott, Bronco McKart, when stop fights?

Dec. 1995: Mike Tyson (vs. Peter McNeeley): The Beast Is Yet To Come. Plus: Morrison-Lewis preview, Naseem Hamed, Chiquita Gonzalez, Gaspar Ortega, 10 best chins.

Jan. 1996: King Bruno! A Hero Always ... A Winner At Last. Plus: Julio Cesar Chavez, Oscar De La Hoya, Chris Eubank, Eddie Perkins, who's hot/who's not.

Feb. 1996: Bowe's The Man (For Now), But Is He Man Enough For Tyson? Plus: Lennox Lewis, Hamed-Barrera, Paul Banke, Vince Phillips, boxing on Madison Ave., What If ... Leonard-Pryor.

Sept. 1996: Lennox Lewis: Tough Enough For Tyson? Plus: Lewis-Mercer, Olympic team, Pernell Whitaker, Mark Johnson, Rocky, Scrapiron Johnson, heavyweight hopefuls.

Nov. 1996: Pole-Axed! Low Blows, Sinking Bowe, Ugly Show. Plus: Bowe-Golota I, Blinky Palermo, exciting fighters, Winky Wright, Joe Brown.

June 1997 (Special Collector's Issue): Holyfield-Tyson II: What It Means For Now ... And Forever. Plus: Holyfield-Tyson fight poster, Naseem Hamed, computer unification, Sayers-Heenan, state of the game.

Oct. 1997: Bang! Naseem Hamed Takes Aim At America. Plus: Riddick Bowe, Phillips-Tszyu, Saman Sorjaturong, Bobby Dykes.

Nov. 1997: Is Mike Tyson Finished? Plus: Ike Ibeabuchi, De La Hoya-Camacho preview, Frankie Conley, Hall of Fame, gloves,

Jan. 1998: Give This Man His Due! If You Can't Respect Oscar ... You Can't Respect Anyone! Plus: Sanchez-Mayweather, Morales-Zaragoza, Lucia Rijker, Marvin Johnson, characters.

Feb. 1998: Welter-Skelter! The Hottest Division In Boxing. Plus: Lewis-Golota, Olympic update, Art Shires, boxing I.Q.

April 1998: Evander Holyfield: THE RING's Fighter Of The Year (Again!). Plus: Yory Boy Campas, Mullings-Norris, Pinkey Mitchell, Holyfield Q & A, Hamed-Kelley, Oscar De La Hoya.

July 1998: Holyfield ... Tapia ... Hamed ... Jones ... Trinidad ... De La Hoya: Who Will Be The First To Fall? Plus: Magic Johnson, Chavez-Gonzalez & Lopez-Alvarez, under-appreciated boxers.

Aug. 1998: Lennox Lewis: No Holyfield, No Glory. Plus: Felix Trinidad, Pat & Mike McMurtry, Chris Byrd, unbreakable records, contenders & pretenders.

Sept. 1998 (92-Page Special): This Man's Not Unbeatable! Five Top Trainers Reveal How To Solve The Hamed Puzzle. Plus: John Tate, Freddie Norwood, Andrew Golota, Roy Jones, 12 greatest finishes.

Oct. 1998: Really Hard Punch ... Really Soft

Lips: Oscar Makes Legs Quiver In And Out Of The Ring. Plus: Hector Camacho Jr., Mayweather-Hernandez preview, *Tuesday Night Fights.*

Jan. 1999: Sugar Shane Mosley: The Sweet Tradition Continues. Plus: Evander Holyfield, Julio Cesar Chavez, Erik Morales, Ray "Windmill" White.

Feb. 1999: 1999! It's Gonna Be A Great Year For Boxing. Plus: Mike Tyson, Foreman-Holmes, David Reid, Eric Morel, Richie Mitchell, quitters.

March 1999: De La Hoya vs. Quartey: Does Bazooka Have The Weapons To Shoot Down Oscar? Plus: Sugar Shane Mosley, Lopez-Alvarez II, Roy Jones, Coley Wallace.

April 1999 (92-Page Special): Fighter Of The Year: Floyd Mayweather Jr.: "He's So Good, It's Scary!" Plus: Fernando Vargas, James Page, Luisito Espinosa, Robinson-Gatti II, Archie Moore, Carlos Oritz, 1998 diary.

May 1999: Is It All Over For Tyson? Plus: Terry Norris, Vinny Pazienza, Jesus Pimental, stoppages, mandatories.

June 1999: The Fans Have Spoken: Results Of The Ring Readers' Poll. Plus: Michael Grant, De La Hoya-Quartey, Antwun Echols, Ted Lowry.

July 1999 (92-Page Special): The State Of The Game. Plus: Holyfield-Lewis, Felix Trinidad, Stevie Johnston, Emile Griffith, Phil Zwick.

Aug. 1999: Candidates For Greatness: Can Anyone Fill The Heavyweight Void? Plus: Tim Austin, Naseem Hamed, Oscar De La Hoya, Max Schmeling, Holyfield-Lewis.

Sept. 1999: Taking Stock In The Fight Game: Who's Hot, Who's Not. Plus: Tony Ayala, Keith Holmes, Denny & Phil Moyer, scoring.

Dec. 1999: Insiders' Analysis: Can Roy Jones Chop Down The Best Heavyweights? Plus: Ike Ibeabuchi, David Reid, David Tua, Carmen Basilio, Johnny Summerlin.

Holiday 1999 (92-Page Special): Heavyweight Showdowns! Holyfield vs. Lewis II, Grant vs. Golota. Plus: Francois Botha, Arturo Gatti, Michael Carbajal, Rocky Marciano, Lou Filippo.

Jan. 2000: What Does Trinidad's Victory Over Oscar Mean? Plus: Floyd Mayweather, Paul Spadafora, Ralph Dupas, boxing media.

March 2000: Lennox Lewis: The Champ For The Millennium ... Or Just For The Moment? Plus: Oleg Maskaev, Main Events, Derrick Jefferson, Jerry Buss, IBF scandal.

May 2000: Lennox Lewis Will Quit ... Or Get Knocked Out, By Michael Grant. Plus: Roy Jones, Quartey-Vargas preview, Garth Panter, best chins, boxing movies.

June 2000: The Honors Keep Coming! Lenox Lewis Receives The Undisputed Ring Belt. Plus: Roy Jones, Vernon Forrest, Teddy Atlas, Mike Tyson, Don Fullmer.

July 2000 (92-Page Special): The State Of The Game. Plus: Felix Trinidad, Zab Judah, Oscar De La Hoya, Barrera-Morales, Ken Buchanan, Beau Jack, Eric Bottjer.

Aug. 2000: Hamed! And The Men Who Want To Kick His Naz! Plus: David Reid, James Prince, Anthony Fletcher, Micky Ward, final beatings, white hopes.

Sept. 2000: A New Look At Lennox Lewis: Is He An All-Time Great? Plus: Winky Wright, Michael Moorer, De La Hoya & Vargas, Eddie McGoorty.

Oct. 2000 (92-Page Special): Move Up Or Shut Up! We're Sick Of Roy Jones' Heavyweight Tease. Plus: Lennox Lewis, Tapia & Romero, Hasim Rahman, Dwight Qawi, Al Palzer, fight films, best refs.

(ALL-COLOR BEGINNING WITH THE DECEMBER 2000 ISSUE)

Dec. 2000: The Hell With Tyson—Tua Is The Man Who Could Beat Lewis. Plus: Mike Tyson, Felix Trinidad, Wladimir Klitschko, Trilla in Manila, U.S. vs. World, Toxey Hall.

Feb. 2001: It's Not Over For Oscar: The Ring's Five-Step Recovery Plan. Plus: Bob Arum, Dingaan Thobela, Hernandez brothers, U.S. Olympic team, future pound-for-pounders.

March 2001 (108-Page Extra): Tyson! Forget About Retirement ... A Title Shot Awaits! Plus: Ayala-Tapia II, Audley Harrison, Chris Byrd, Kirk Johnson, Julio Cesar Chavez, Boone Kirkman, 12 most exciting rounds.

April 2001: A New Beginning ... A New Middle: Felix Trinidad Is Ready To Conquer Another Division! Plus: Shane Mosley, Lennox Lewis, Paul Andrews, boxing business.

May 2001 (108-Page Extra): Felix Trinidad—Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Year-end awards, Barrera-Hamed preview, Bernard Hopkins, Joey Archer.

June 2001: Pretty Boy Floyd: Superstar Or Superbrat? Plus: Lewis vs. greats, 2000 Olympians, Henry Hall, rematches we'd like to see.

July 2001 (108-Page Extra): The State Of The Game. Plus: Zab Judah, John Ruiz, Andrew Lewis, Mark Johnson, British boxing.

Aug. 2001: Rocking The World! What Rahman's Victory Means To Boxing. Plus: Barrera-Hamed, Oscar De La Hoya, Mount Whitaker, *Friday Night Fights.*

Sept. 2001 (108-Page Extra): Exclusive Ring Interview—Hasim Rahman: "Nobody's Taking My Titles!" Plus: 20 all-time greatest lightweights, Pat Valentino, Hopkins & King, Jones & Arum.

Oct. 2001: Trinidad vs. Hopkins: Middleweight Unification Superfight Analysis & Predictions. Plus: Emanuel Steward, Joe Calzaghe, Ali's opponents, Rahman & King.

Dec. 2001: The Rock Promises Another Shock! "I'm Gonna Knock Lennox Out Again!" Plus: David Reid, Jones-Gonzalez, McCline-Grant, Jackie Graves, ring deaths.

Jan. 2002 (108-Page Extra): Oscar Feeds His Critics: Did He Chicken Out Against Vargas? Plus: Wladimir Klitschko, Chris Byrd, 20 greatest featherweights, "Caveman" Bob Moha.

March 2002 (108-Page Extra): Is Tyson Ready To Regain The Title? Plus: Kostya Tszyu, Floyd Mayweather, Bernard Hopkins, Eddie Futch, fitness, ahead for 2002.

May 2002 (108-Page Extra): Bernard Hopkins—Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Year-end awards, Holyfield-Ruiz III, 2000 Olympians, Eric Harding, "Silent" Hairston.

June 2002: Lennox Lewis: I'll End The Tyson "Freak Show!" Plus: Forrest-Mosley, Freitas-Casamayor, De La Hoya & Vargas, Hagler & Leonard.

July 2002 (108-Page Extra): Exclusive Preview: The Oscar-Fernando Hatefest. Plus: Hopkins & Monzon, Francisco Bojado, Buddy McGirt, Lionel Rose, State of the Game.

Aug. 2002: Lewis vs. Tyson: Who Will Win ... And What Happens Next. Plus: Michael Moorer, Jeff Fenech, Charley Parham, Rafael & Juan Manuel Marquez.

Sept. 2002 (108-Page Extra): Vernon Forrest—Next Step In The Master Plan: End Mosley's Career. Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard, Roberto Duran, Ricardo Mayorga, 20 greatest lightweights.

Oct. 2002: Tito' Back ... And He's "Going To Make Hopkins Pay!" Plus: Ward-Gatti, Bouie Fisher, controversial scoring, ruining prospects.

Nov. 2002 (108-Page Extra): Monster Mashed! Can A New Tyson Emerge From The Rubble? Plus: The Ring 100, Evander Holyfield, Don King, Billy Joiner, junior welters.

Jan. 2003 (108-Page Extra): The Golden Boy Proves His Manhood: Is Oscar De La Hoya' Prime Just Beginning? Plus: Michael Grant, David Tua, previews of Morales-Ayala and Ward-Gatti II, overrated/underrated.

Feb. 2003: The Resurrection Of A Warrior: Cam Evander Holyfield Recapture The Glory Of His Youth? Also: Floyd Mayweather Sr., Nate Campbell, Tom & Peter McNeeley, boxing finances, pound-for-pound.

March 2003 (108-Page Extra): Hamed ... Morales ... Tapia: Barrera Has Punched His Ticket To The Hall Of Fame. Also: Joe Mesi, Ricardo Lopez, Pipino Cuevas, alphabet tales, what's ahead for '03.

April 2003: Gatti Has His Ducks In A Row: A New Woman And A New Trainer Put The "Art" Back In Arturo. Also: Barrera-Morales, Roy Jones, Phillip Ndou & Silence Mabuza, Laila Ali, Gorilla Jones,

May 2003 (108-Page Extra): Ali ... Leonard ... Tyson ... Klitschko? Also: Year-end awards, Chris Byrd, Lupe Pintor, Maxie Rosenbloom.

June 2003: Exclusive! The Ring Grills George Foreman. Also: Kostya Tszyu, Ricardo Mayorga, Diego Corrales, Tommy Loughran.

July 2003 (108-Page Extra): Now What, Roy? How Jones Matches Up Against The Heavyweight Elite. Also: Mike Tyson, Marquez Brothers, Ricardo Williams, Tony Zale.

Aug. 2003: The Ring Unscrambles The Heavyweight Mess. Also: Bernard Hopkins, Scott Harrison, Billy Warren, Latino revolution, cups.

Sept. 2003 (108-Page Extra): Oscar At 30: Forget About Retirement ... He Has Revenge On His Mind. Also: Mayorga-Forrest II preview, James Toney, Barney Ross, HBO, report cards.

Oct. 2003: James Toney vs. Bernard Hopkins: The Ghost Of Superfights Past. Also: De La Hoya-Mosley II preview, Jermain Taylor, Sharmba Mitchell, biggest hearts.

Nov. 2003 (108-Page Extra): Healing And Hungry: Vitali Klitschko—Is He The Man To Retire Lewis? Also: Gatti-Ward III, Holyfield-Toney, Dominick Guinn, Lee Roy Murphy, The Ring 100.

Jan. 2004 (108-Page Extra): Shane-Oscar II: The 10 Questions You Want Answered! Also: Laila Ali, Mark Johnson, Jimmy McClarnin, The Ring championship, broke boxers, division-by-division analysis.

March 2004 (108-Page Extra): Audley Harrison, Dominick Guinn, Joe Mesi: Who Will Be The Next Star Heavyweight? Also: Floyd Mayweather, Arturo Gatti, Erik Morales, what's ahead for 2004.

April 2004: Antonio Tarver: "It's Not About Roy Jones Anymore." Also: Pacquiao-Barrera, Floyd Mayweather, all punch/no chin, Rinty Monaghan.

May 2004 (108-Page Extra): James Toney—Fighter Of The Year. Also: Year-end awards, Mosley-Wright preview, King's "Night Of The Undisputed," boxing politicians.

June 2004: The Lewis Retirment: Will He Come Back? Also: Scott Pemberton, Jones-Tarver preview, James McGirt, James J. Braddock.

July 2004 (100-Page Extra): The State Of The Game. Also: Erik Morales, Howard Eastman, Marco Antonio Barrera, Hank Hankinson, middleweights.

Summer 2004: Squeezed Out: Is There A Superfight For Felix Trinidad? Also: Joe Mesi, Miguel Cotto, Winky Wright, Ceferino Garcia.

Oct. 2004 (100-Page Extra): The Executioner: There's No Escape For De La Hoya! Also: Verno Phillips, Jose Luis Castillo, Felix Sturm, James Toney, Jeff Lacy, one-punch kayos

Fall 2004: Trinidad vs. Mayorga: Comeback Or Calamity. Also: Vitali Klitschko, Marco Antonio Barrera, Juan Diaz, Jimmy Clabby.

Dec. 2004 (100-Page Extra): The Ring 100. Also: Diego Corrales, Rafael Marquez, Williams-Tyson, Gatti-Mayweather preview, boxing and government.

Feb. 2005 (100-Page Extra): The Incredible Comeback Of Felix Trinidad—Just The Boost Boxing Needs! Also: Glen Johnson, Klitschko-Williams preview, Kasim Ouma, Tony Lopez, Paul Berlenbach, bodypunching.

Winter 2005: 1980s vs. Today: Comparing The Middleweight Superstars. Also: Roy Jones, Leija-Gatti preview, Terry Downes, comebacks.

April 2005—How Kostya Tszyu Mastered The Sweet Science: The Metamorphosis Of A Near-Perfect Fighter. Also: Barrera-Morales III, Winky Wright, Vivian Harris, 10 greatest title reigns, 10 burning questions.

Spring 2005—Svelter Welter: Moving To 147 Will Tip The Scale In Oscar's Favor. Also: Vitali Klitschko, Glen Johnson, Andre Ward, Johnny Persol.

☐ Feb/83
☐ Aug/83
☐ Sep/83
☐ Nov/83
All 4 $18

☐ Feb/84
☐ Jun/84
☐ Jul/84
☐ Aug/84
☐ Oct/84
All 5 $22

☐ Jan/85
☐ Feb/85
☐ Mar/85
☐ May/85
☐ Jun/85
☐ Aug/85
☐ Oct/85
☐ Nov/85
☐ Dec/85
All 9 $34

☐ Jan/86
☐ May/86
☐ Jun/86

☐ Aug/86
☐ Sep/86
☐ Dec/86
All 6 $25

☐ Jun/87
☐ Jul/87
☐ Sep/87
☐ Nov/87
☐ Dec/87
All 5 $22

☐ Jan/88
☐ Feb/88
☐ Mar/88
☐ Apr/88
☐ May/88
☐ Sep/88
☐ Oct/88
☐ Nov/88
All 8 $31

☐ Jan/89
☐ Feb/89
☐ Mar/89
☐ May/89
All 4 $18

☐ Feb/90
☐ Mar/90
☐ Apr/90
☐ May/90
☐ Jun/90
☐ Jul/90
☐ Sep/90
☐ Nov/90
☐ Dec/90
All 9 $34

☐ Apr/91
☐ Jun/91
☐ Jul/91
☐ Aug/91
☐ Oct/91
All 5 $22

☐ Jul/92
☐ Sep/92
☐ Nov/92
All 3 $14

☐ Feb/93
☐ Apr/93
☐ May/93
All 3 $14

☐ Aug/94
☐ Dec/94

☐ May/95
☐ Oct/95

☐ Jan/96
☐ Feb/96
☐ Sep/96
☐ Nov/96
All 4 $18

☐ Jun/97
☐ Oct/97
☐ Nov/97
All 3 $14

☐ Jan/98
☐ Feb/98
☐ Apr/98
☐ Jul/98
☐ Aug/98
☐ Sep/98
☐ Oct/98
All 7 $28

☐ Jan/99
☐ Feb/99
☐ Mar/99
☐ Apr/99
☐ May/99
☐ Jun/99
☐ Jul/99
☐ Aug/99
☐ Sep/99
☐ Dec/99
☐ Hol/99
All 11 $40

☐ Jan/00
☐ Mar/00
☐ May/00
☐ Jun/00
☐ Jul/00
☐ Aug/00
☐ Sep/00
☐ Oct/00
☐ Dec/00
All 9 $34

☐ Feb/01
☐ Mar/01
☐ Apr/01

☐ May/01
☐ Jun/01
☐ Jul/01
☐ Aug/01
☐ Sep/01
☐ Oct/01
☐ Dec/01
All 10 $37

☐ Jan/02
☐ Mar/02
☐ May/02
☐ Jun/02
☐ Jul/02
☐ Aug/02
☐ Sep/02
☐ Oct/02
☐ Nov/02
All 9 $34

☐ Jan/03
☐ Feb/03
☐ Mar/03
☐ Apr/03
☐ May/03
☐ Jun/03

☐ Jul/03
☐ Aug/03
☐ Sep/03
☐ Oct/03
☐ Nov/03
All 11 $40

☐ Jan/04
☐ Mar/04
☐ Apr/04
☐ May/04
☐ Jun/04
☐ Jul/04
☐ Sum/04
☐ Oct/04
☐ Fall/04
☐ Dec/04
All 10 $37

☐ Feb/05
☐ Win/05
☐ Ap/05
☐ Spr/05
All 4 $18

In case of sellout, indicate two substitute choices: _____ _____

Please send me the back issues I have checked off. I have enclosed $5 for each issue as payment in full or provided my credit card number to charge my purchase ($20 minimum). Send To:

LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 910
FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

ONLY $5 EACH

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA # _____

☐ MasterCard # _____

Expiration Date: __/__ MO/YR

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

For all orders except the U.S., you must add $1.50 for every back issue to be sent via surface mail, and $3.00 for every back issue to be sent airmail. Int'l money order in U.S. funds only. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

7124/2-05

UNLIMITED OPTIONS

REVITALIZED MORALES CALLS THE SHOTS AFTER THRILLER WITH PAC-MAN

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Morales jams a right into Pacquiao's face (below) during the blistering action that led to a thrilling points victory for the Mexican warrior. It was a highly significant victory for Morales, who was coming off a loss to arch-rival Marco Antonio Barrera, especially in light of Pacquiao's TKO of Barrera in 2003.

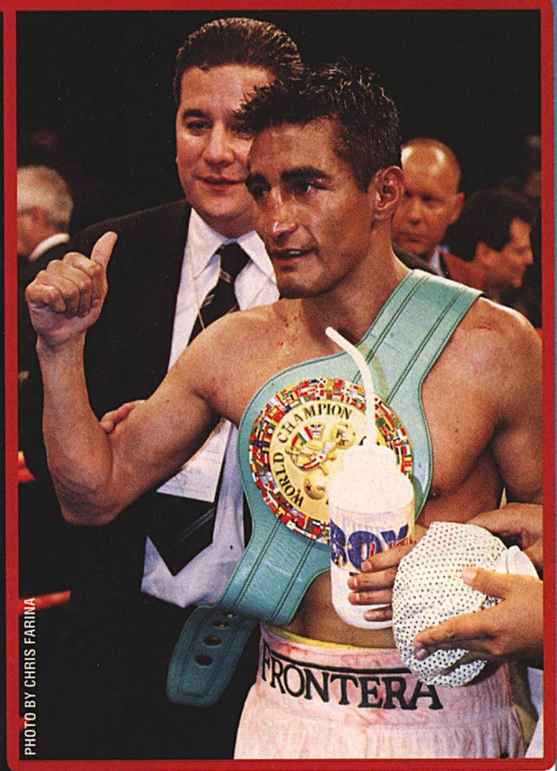


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

By Brian Doogan

Freddie Roach had endured a restless night, Mike Tyson's defeat by Danny Williams weighing heavily on his mind. When he woke up about 8 a.m. in his Louisville hotel room, on the banks of the Ohio River, he felt heartbroken, worn out. He thought about where it had gone wrong for his fighter, how they might be able to put things right, and about the long flight he faced back to Phoenix, then a six-hour drive to his home in L.A. His mind wandered, too, to the fight taking place that night in Las Vegas, Erik Morales against Carlos Hernandez. "I think Morales is a little shot," he confided. "Too many wars, too many hard fights." Not for the first time that weekend, Roach miscalculated.

Morales will turn 29 in September. He remains among the world's elite fighters. Last July he beat Hernandez convincingly, a

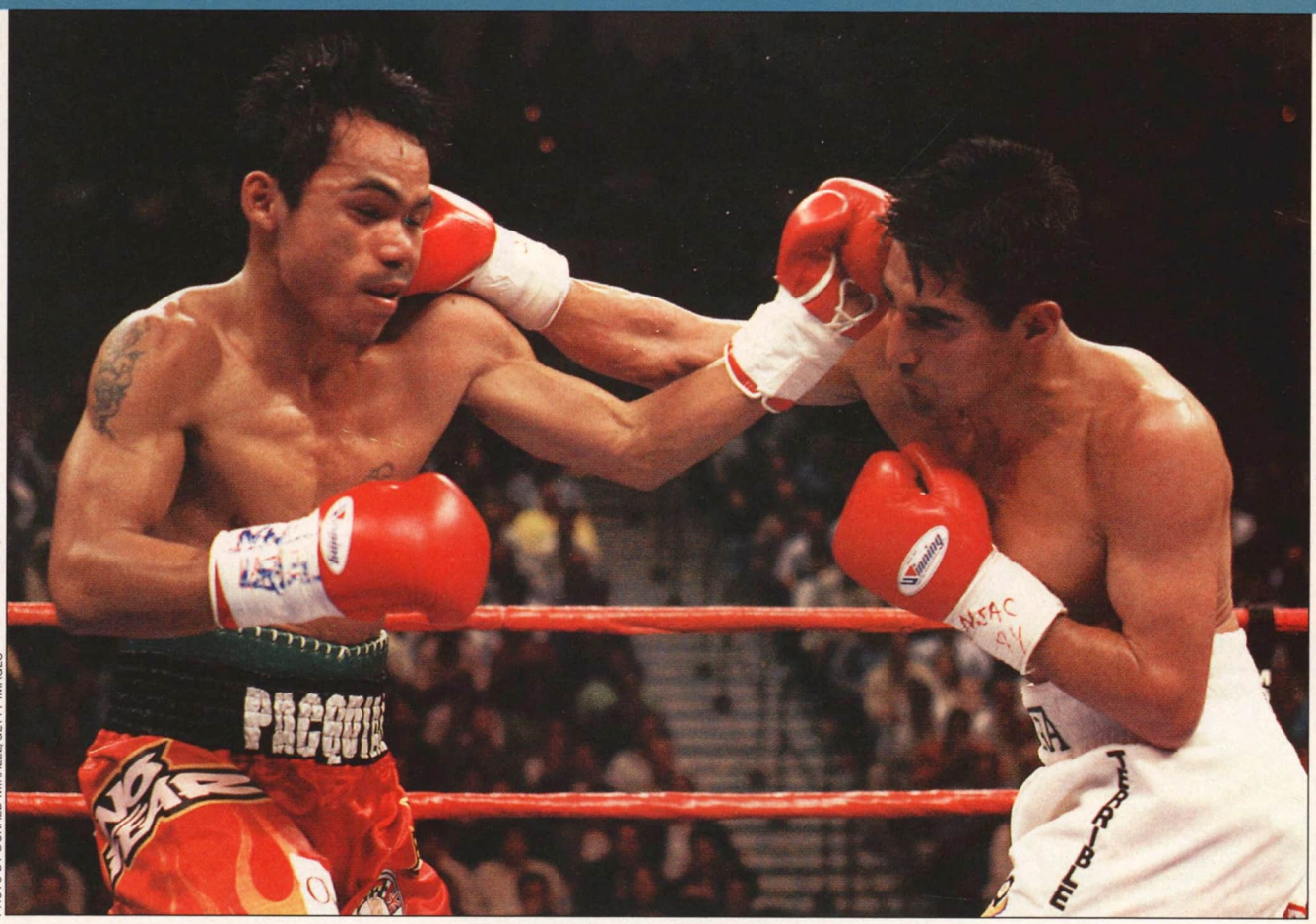


PHOTO BY DONALD MIRALLE/GETTY IMAGES

Pacquiao and Morales exchange shots in two-way action typical of their exhilarating match that had the crowd of 14,623 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena whooping it up throughout. According to CompuBox, Morales connected with 265 punches, compared to 217 for Pacquiao.

strong fighter with great heart, then stood toe-to-toe with his nemesis, Marco Antonio Barrera, in November, the third fight in their enduring epic rivalry. Morales lost, but once again their struggle went to the wire. It was THE RING's Fight of the Year, a thrilling spectacle of Mexican machismo laid bare. But it left Morales at a crossroads, requiring a big fight and a big win to continue his career in the right direction.

"After the Barrera fight a lot of people didn't believe in me. They lost confidence in me," said Morales. "I had to show I am still around."

So Manny Pacquiao, another Roach fighter, came to town.

"I think Morales is perfect for Manny," Roach insisted. "Manny can knock him out. Morales' jab is long and slow, and we'll use a lot of head movement. Morales lunges with the jab and if he uses it, we'll come over the top with a right hand. We're prepared for that and we'll use a lot of side-to-side movement and we'll fight a smarter fight than when we fought [Juan Manuel] Marquez (whom Pacquiao floored three

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Pacquiao seemed to bother Morales with bodyshots in the early going, but for the most part the Filipino abandoned this approach after suffering a bloody gash over his right eye in the fifth round.

PHOTO BY DONALD MIRALLE/GETTY IMAGES

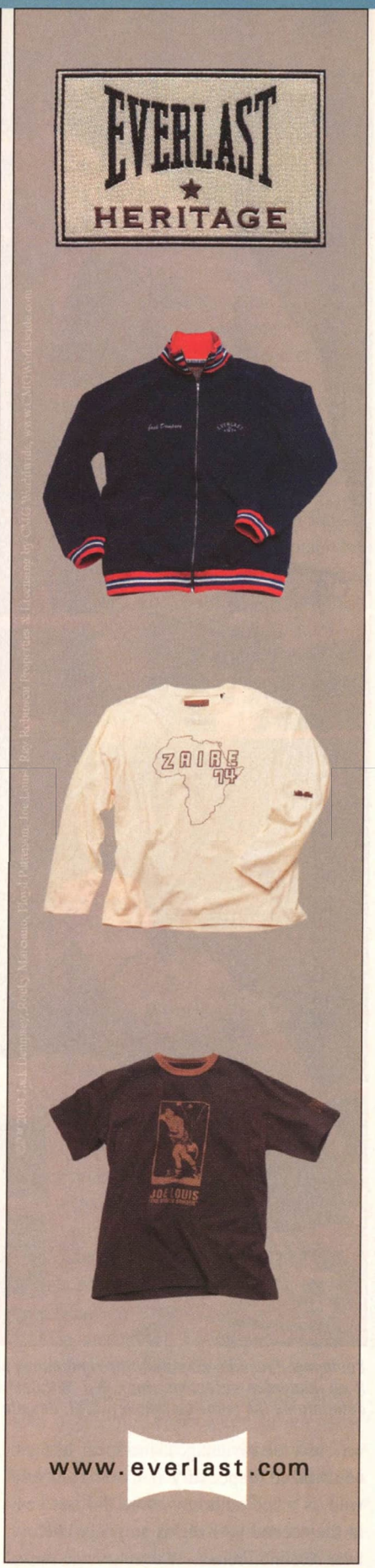
Pacquiao was undoubtedly hampered by the cut, which referee Joe Cortez ruled had been caused by a punch. Replays, however, clearly showed that it had been an accidental clash of heads that had opened the wound. The injury will keep him out of action for months.

times in the opening round only to disintegrate as the fight progressed, settling ultimately for a draw). Plus, anyone who would stand and exchange with Manny is making a big mistake. This fight you'll see the type of Manny who fought Barrera (and destroyed Barrera in November 2003)."

But it is what we saw from Morales on a breathtaking night, March 19, at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, that counted most, that laid the ghost of his gut-wrenching defeat against Barrera to rest, at least temporarily, and also convinced skeptics of the Mexican's sustained preeminence. Morales is still made for war. The legs and the artillery are still there. So, too, the instincts of a man who fell out of his mother's womb onto the floor of a boxing gym in Tijuana. Morales may have been in wars with Daniel Zaragoza, Wayne McCullough, Guty Espadas, In Jin Chi, Barrera, and now Pacquiao, but he has recovered well from his wounds.

"I looked at him closely at the weigh-in the day before the fight and he was quite skinny, not as skinny as when I fought him, but skinny enough," revealed McCullough, THE RING's Las Vegas correspondent who continues to campaign in the super bantamweight division in which he dropped a points decision against Morales in 1999. "Morales could still move up in weight, to lightweight or even higher, and carry the weight well. He has that big frame and he hits hard enough too. Few fighters I know are as tough as him."

Jose Luis Castillo, THE RING's world lightweight champion, would surely be one, Diego Corrales another. Castillo, the 31-year-old from Empalme, Mexico, was scheduled to meet the lanky Las Vegan on May 7, and the winner of that bout could be targeted by Morales should he choose to rise in weight. Castillo, a one-time sparring partner of the great Julio Cesar Chavez and a man who gave Floyd Mayweather a scare or two, particularly in the first of their two fights, wields more formidable power than Morales. But the Tijuana native, when he is at his most disciplined, has the superior technique. Against a man like Corrales, however, the discrepancy in height might make it too great a leap. Morales would be



PHOTOS BY WILL HART/HBO

Southpaw Pacquiao displayed the right hands he'd been working hard to improve, tagging Morales with it on numerous occasions (top). But Morales' more powerful right hand was an even bigger factor in determining the outcome (above). Still, despite 482 connects, nobody went down.

seriously disadvantaged, his spear-like jab neutralized, especially if Corrales boxed with as much authority as he did last year in the second half of his stoppage victory over Acelino Freitas.

When Morales arrived in Vegas on the Tuesday night before facing Pacquiao, he was said by witnesses inside the MGM Grand Hotel to be looking haggard, even weak. Unconfirmed reports suggested that he had difficulty trimming down from as much as 144 pounds to the 130-pound weight limit. Pacquiao came in half a pound lighter, but by fight time both were junior welters, according to HBO's unofficial day-of-the-fight weigh-in, with Morales at 140 and Pacquiao at 139.

Even so, in the immediate aftermath of his close but unanimous decision over Pac-Man, it was still uncertain in which direction Morales will take his career.

"It's up to the people, whatever they want to see, if they want Barrera or they want me maybe to move up," Morales said. "Whoever Top Rank (his promoter) and the people want to see me fight, that's what I'll do."

This could also mean a mouthwatering rematch with Pacquiao or, as Morales hinted at so appealingly, a fourth fight against Barrera. While McCullough's point is valid, that Morales has the physique to box at a higher weight, the truth is that his punch may not quite retain the same impact as he progresses through the divisions. McCullough was the first man to take him the distance in a title fight after Morales had posted eight knockouts in succession—including his 10th-round stoppage of Zaragoza to claim the WBC super bantamweight belt—but since then Morales has failed to stop any quality opponents. Further dilution of his power, which would be the inevitable result of him stepping up in weight, would not be to his benefit. Against the likes of Pacquiao, even Barrera, he still holds this advantage.

"His size wasn't a problem," maintained Pacquiao. But the physical advantages that Morales enjoyed went some way toward determining the outcome of a pulsating fight.

Pacquiao's strategy had been no secret.

"Manny blasted and took apart Barrera, he knocked down Marquez three times, hey, it's going to be real simple telling him how to fight Morales," Roach declared before the fight. "He's going to go right at Morales real early in this fight."

So he did, penetrating Morales' guard with his explosive left fist in the opening

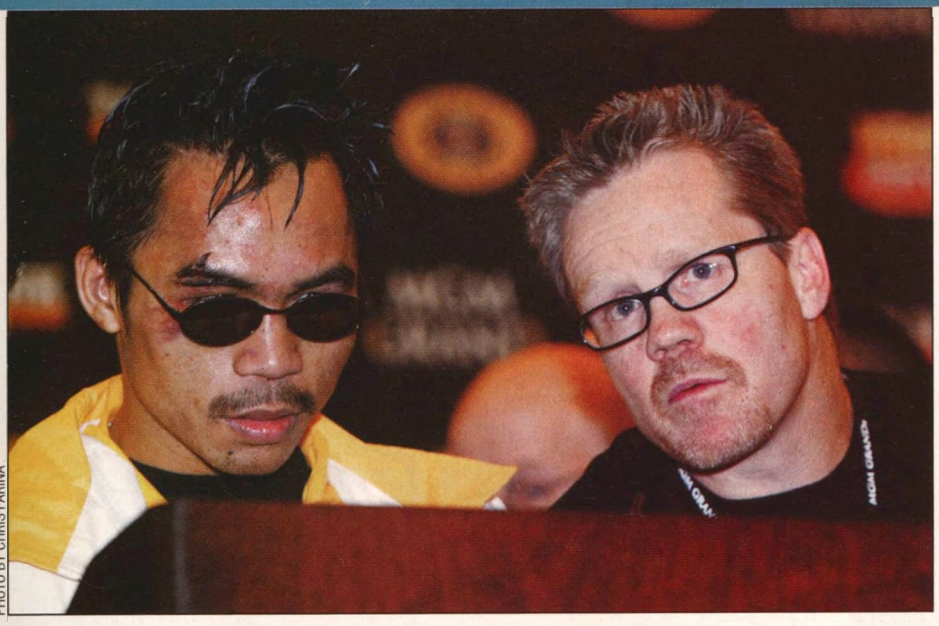


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

A battered Pacquiao and his trainer, Freddy Roach, answer questions at the postfight press conference. Judging by his prefight comments, Roach had underestimated Morales, who turned out to be far from a shot fighter.

round and testing the Mexican's resolve. But Morales fired back and the exchange was intense. Morales had prepared for the Filipino's whirlwind opening. "Let's see who is stronger in those first few exchanges," he anticipated with glee. One bodyshot seemed to double Morales over. But he took all of Pacquiao's power and refused to be dominated. In the second round he began to land his punches with more consistency and by the third he was settling into a quietly effective rhythm behind his strong left jab, which set the tempo of the fight. To Morales' stiff left jab, Pacquiao could find no answer. It was a different proposition entirely to facing Barrera.

"It was hard for me because Morales was a different style," Pacquiao confessed. "Morales is a boxer."

A masterful boxer when he is in the mood. Morales began to pick his shots with surgical precision, jabbing incisively at Pacquiao's head, dropping his right hand like a demolition ball. Pacquiao, on the other hand, was having trouble landing the left hand that had so demoralized and decimated Barrera. When they were through with the first third of the fight, it was clear that Morales had control.

The fifth round, Pacquiao subsequently claimed, was pivotal. Morales seized the initiative again after withstanding a hard uppercut, driving Pacquiao back with a strong barrage of blows. Suddenly, the livewire from Kibawe appeared to be teetering toward a kind of terminal tiredness. He was in a bad place to be feeling this way and his predicament worsened when he emerged from an exchange with a bad cut over his right eye. Referee Joe Cortez broke up the action and invited the ringside doctor to inspect the damage, indicating that it had been caused by a punch, but the reality is that it was caused by an unintentional headbutt, as video replay later showed. Pacquiao was allowed to continue, but the flow of blood seemed to affect him.

"I couldn't see out of one eye and it was very hard," he lamented. "If I am not cut on one eye, I think I can knock him out."

Pacquiao, despite his injuries, never stopped trying. Both fighters continued to fire away furiously. For every right hand that Morales threw, Pacquiao retorted with a hard, fast left. It was terrific action, back and forth, which was exactly what the crowd of 14,623 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena and 350,000 subscribers to HBO PPV paid their money to see. Morales was hurt near the end of the eighth round and appeared stunned again in the ninth, Pacquiao's aggression keeping him in the fight.

"But I never felt his power," Morales insisted. "And I never felt he got me real good with any of his left hands."

Morales' rights were dominant weapons again in the 10th, and Pacquiao was suffering perceptibly in the penultimate round. In the last, Morales turned southpaw against the southpaw and stunned Pacquiao. Predictably, Pacquiao retaliated with a vengeance, hurting Morales, who reverted to an orthodox stance. They finished the fight trading punches fiercely in the center of the ring, a fitting finale. But Morales had the look of a winner, and triple score totals of 115-113 reached by Chuck Giampa, Dave Moretti and Paul Smith matched THE RING's card. Morales, 48-2 (34), won the fight because he utilized his physical advantages sufficiently, while once again re-affirming his warrior's heart. In defeat, Pacquiao's courage could not be questioned.

"I would like a rematch," Pacquiao, 39-3-2 (30), declared later. "This was a great fight and I want to fight him again."

Despite his domination of Barrera, which Morales has never come close to accomplishing in three monumental bouts, Pacquiao would never be able to inflict something similar on Morales. As Pacquiao acknowledged, Morales is a different kind of fighter, but the reality is also that, physically, he is different. There is also the distinct possibility that Pacquiao got Barrera on the right night, the great Mexican troubled mentally by the disclosures in the final weeks of preparation that he had undergone brain surgery years previously, and also by fires that had forced him to flee his training camp in Big Bear. Maybe it is at featherweight, against Barrera, that Pacquiao should look to re-establish himself.

"I will fight Barrera again in time," Pacquiao said. "But I also want to fight Morales again—without a cut."

Did the cut affect him? Unquestionably. Did it cost him the fight? No. To suggest otherwise would be to undervalue Morales' performance. Pride aside, Pacquiao would accept that he is a more effective proposition at featherweight. He should stake his future on competing in the 126-pound division, where he still holds THE RING featherweight title he won by stopping Barrera.

"I feel vindicated," said Morales. "For people who didn't believe in me, well, I hope they start believing."

The purest vindication, Morales knows, can only come from a fourth encounter against Barrera and a victory for him. But the suspicion about him being a little shot he has shot down emphatically. ■

Brian Doogan is THE RING's European correspondent.

COTTO HITS CHOPPY WATERS

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO/HBO

Corley cracks Cotto with one of numerous right hooks he landed, one of which had the undefeated Puerto Rican in serious trouble in the third round of their junior welterweight bout. Although Cotto rallied to win, the difficulty he had with the relatively light-punching Corley has caused many to re-evaluate Cotto's potential.

Maybe He's Not The Next Trinidad After All

By Robert Mladinich

Miguel Cotto had a faraway look in his eyes, tinged with desperation, as he lurched sideways on unsteady legs. The capacity crowd of more than 10,000 Cotto worshipers jammed into the Coliseo Ruben Rodriguez were almost as stunned as their hero. This wasn't supposed to happen, not to Cotto, not to the fighter being groomed to eventually replace Felix Trinidad as Puerto Rico's fistic deity. And certainly not at the hands of DeMarcus "Chop Chop" Corley, a boxer who wears Victoria's Secret underwear and hadn't scored a knockout in almost four years.

Junior welterweight Cotto, who was generally regarded as the most compelling new face in boxing's most exciting division, survived the crisis and stopped Corley in the fifth round, but not before his reputation took a hit just as solid as the one from Corley that rocked his world in the third round.

Because the perpetually stoic Cotto, 24, is being groomed for superstardom by his promoter, Top Rank, as well as by HBO, he was expected to walk through Corley, much the way he did against such respectable former opponents as Randall Bailey, Kelson Pinto, Lovemore Ndou, Victoriano Sosa, and Carlos Maussa in his five most recent fights, all of which occurred within the 14 months leading up to the Corley bout.

But the 30-year-old Corley, a Washington, D.C., resident who had lost decisions to Floyd Mayweather and Zab Judah, had other ideas. He refused to wilt under Cotto's relentless early pressure, even after being dropped by a right hand in the very first round. Still game in the third round, southpaw Corley blasted Cotto with a right hook to the temple that had Cotto on wobbly legs for quite some time. Inexplicably, Corley didn't have the wherewithal to follow through, and blew the opportunity of a lifetime. By the fifth round, Cotto had recovered sufficiently to knock Corley down again. Moments later, while trying to avoid a barrage of heavy punches, Corley strategically dropped to one knee. At that time, for reasons known only to himself, referee Enrique Quinones Falu stopped the bout. Cotto was awarded a TKO at 2:45 of the round and raised his record to 23-0 (19), while Corley dipped to 29-4-1 (16).

Although victorious, the performance was far from Cotto's finest, and raised a lot more questions than it provided answers. Right up until the weigh-in, Cotto had trouble making weight, while Corley tipped the scales at a surprisingly slim 137 pounds, three pounds under the limit. By fight time, a day later, Corley weighed 140 pounds at HBO's unofficial weigh-in, while Cotto was 17 pounds heavier. From a strictly visual standpoint, it

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO/HBO

Before the start of his match with Corley, Cotto was being heavily touted by his promoter, Top Rank, and HBO, which has broadcast a number of his bouts, as the next Trinidad. Of course, "Tito's" punch resistance was never his best asset, so perhaps the comparison is more valid then ever.

looked like a man against a boy.

Tony Paige, a radio host for WFAN in New York and former president of the Boxing Writers Association of America, believes that Corley exposed Cotto as an overhyped prospect whose popularity will never equal, as so many had predicted, that of Trinidad.

"If a guy 17 pounds lighter is doing that kind of damage, what's going to happen when he's in with a legitimate 140-pounder who can hit just as hard as he can, like Kostya Tszyu?" asked Paige. "If Tsyzu hit him and he survived, we'd be saying what a great chin he has. But to get hit and hurt so bad by Corley—who was in essence nearly three divisions lighter—that raises a lot of red flags."

Paige believes that Cotto's thick frame makes him better

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO/HBO

To his credit, Cotto rebounded well from his third-round adversity and kept hammering away at Corley with hurtful powershots. Cotto's supporters are quick to point out that this sort of resiliency is a quality found in all great fighters, and that a struggle or two on the way to the top is not unusual.

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO/HBO

Corley was down three times in all, twice in the fifth and final round. But even then there was considerable controversy surrounding the stoppage as "Chop Chop" appeared clear-eyed and ready to continue when the referee called what many consider a premature halt.

suited for the welterweight division, but understands his reluctance to move up in weight where he would have to start from scratch. But, Paige believes, Cotto is now at the stage of his career where the public is going to be expecting answers, and won't allow him any soft touches.

"I think they have to put him in with a puncher, just to show that the Corley fight was a fluke," said Paige. "If they put him in with a feather-fisted fighter, what's it going to prove? It's only going to create more suspicion."

Tim Smith, the boxing writer for the New York *Daily News*, was not so critical of Cotto's performance.

"I actually think he showed a lot of poise against Corley," said Smith. "He demonstrated a level of maturity that you don't always see in fighters who are used to having their way. He took a temple shot, got staggered, and held on to stop Corley. Chances are he won't even be at that weight for long. He looks like he could move up to 147 right now, but I don't think he's ready for Zab Judah, or even Cory Spinks. There are a lot of good matches for him at 140. He could go right now with Sharmba Mitchell, Vivian Harris, or Ricky Hatton. But I don't think he's ready for Tszyu, who is too smart and hits too hard."

Asked if he felt Cotto lost any luster from his less than stellar performance, Smith was adamant in his response. "Absolutely not!" he said. "He showed us something. He took a shot that would have dropped a lot of guys, held on, gathered himself, and won. It's hard to lose luster when you do that."

Every great boxer has at least one difficult fight on his way to the top. Early on, Oscar De La Hoya was in a battle of attrition with John-John Molina, and Fernando Vargas had more than a little trouble with Winky Wright. Afterward, there were an abundance of experts who were more than happy to criticize them. And they didn't even have the type of ammunition that Cotto's critics have now. Unlike De La Hoya and Vargas, who were just forced to fight harder than they ever had to before,

FOR SALE

The Ring Championship Boxing Belts

- **Limited Edition Belts of LaMotta, Marciano, Moore, Robinson, Ortiz and others.**
- **Expertly crafted by the makers of all the current Ring Belts.**

For further information please contact
Newport Marketing, Inc.
901 Elm Street, Colon, MI 49040
269-432-9480 Fax 269-432-9560
nptmktg@aol.com

MOVING?

Kindly give us 8 weeks advance notice

Are you moving? If so, please give us 8 weeks advance notice so we can continue to service your subscription promptly. Check the magazine(s) below to which you subscribe:

☐ BOXING 2005
☐ WORLD BOXING
☐ KO
☐ THE RING

NAME

OLD ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

NEW ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

EFFECTIVE DATE

CLIP THIS FORM AND SEND TO:
LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 2085,
MARION, OH 43306-8185

5757/09-01/4c

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO/HBO

All's well that ends well: Cotto and his handlers celebrate the most demanding victory of his 23-bout pro career. But the vulnerability he showed has prompted challenges from numerous junior welterweights who had never called him out before.

Cotto was severely rocked by a guy who was not even considered much of a puncher.

Not surprisingly, within days of his problematic performance, promoters, managers, and fighters from around the world were lobbying hard to be in the opposite corner for Cotto's next bout, which is scheduled to take place at Madison Square Garden in June. Dino Duva of the New Jersey-based Duva Boxing issued a press release campaigning for his young protege, Kendall Holt, 18-1 (12), who just three weeks earlier scored an eighth-round knockout of previously undefeated 1996 Olympian David Diaz. Because Holt hails from Paterson, New Jersey, which is just across the river from the Big Apple, and he has quite a following of his own, Duva believes a Cotto-Holt matchup is a natural for the Garden.

"I always thought that Miguel was a very good, but not great, prospect," said Duva. "I would have been willing to put Kendall in with him, even before he looked so ordinary against Corley. After Kendall beat Diaz, I

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

PHOTO BY GREGG MARNANE

Both Junior Witter, pictured on his way to a unanimous decision over Lovemore Ndou (top) and Kendall Holt, pictured after stopping previously undefeated David Diaz (above), have volunteered to be the next to test Cotto's whiskers. Cotto will next fight at Madison Square Garden in June.

knew he was ready for anybody. This fight would be a crowd-pleasing war."

"I can't believe that Corley let Cotto stay alive, as hurt as he was," said Holt. "I would have been all over him, and never let him get out of the round. I respect and admire Cotto, but he's vulnerable. We're all vulnerable. His managers just pick the right guys to put in front of him, a lot of blown-up lightweights. Cotto is a bull who tries to outmuscle everyone. My movement would drive him crazy, and I wouldn't back down when it was time to stand and fight. I'd love to get the opportunity to fight him. It's only a matter of time until someone else beats him, so I'd like to be first."

Another 140-pounder who has called out Cotto since the Corley fight is England's Junior Witter, 31-1-2 (19), who impressed recently with a 12-round decision over fellow contender Ndou.

"I have heard Cotto may be fighting Italy's Gianluca Branco," stated Witter. "Fight fans and broadcaster HBO deserve better. I boxed Lovemore Ndou and did a number on him. I put in a much better performance against Ndou than Cotto did, flooring him twice, even though I fractured my hand during the fight. Cotto couldn't even put a dent in him and was extended all the way. Given that I outperformed him, Cotto should want to fight me in order to prove himself, not take the soft option. I am here, ready and willing to step in and face him in the kind of fight HBO are renowned for. I know I will knock Cotto out."

One person who cannot understand what all of the hubbub is about is Bruce Trampler, the matchmaker at Top Rank who has worked with Cotto since his pro debut.

"Why should anyone be surprised that Corley buzzed him?" asked Trampler. "He lost a split decision to Judah and was competitive with Mayweather. Maybe Miguel was a little too geared up for this fight. Who knows? He had to lose four ounces for the weigh-in, opted to take his frustration out on Corley, and got caught."

Trampler compared Cotto being hurt to the time, in October 1983, when up-and-coming Mike McCallum was nearly starched by unheralded Manuel Jiminez, and the time, in September 1966, when a young Joe Frazier was decked by Oscar Bonavena. For months afterward, prognosticators steadfastly believed that neither fighter would ever amount to anything because they were incapable of taking a punch. As history has shown, both McCallum and Frazier had solid enough chins for illustrious careers that culminated with their enshrinements in the Hall of Fame.

"Miguel got hit in the ear, which upset his equilibrium, and he did the dipsy-doodle," said Trampler. "In the long run, it might be the best thing that ever happened to him. When asked about it at the post-fight press conference, Miguel just shrugged his shoulders. It was no big deal, certainly not big enough to generate all of these inquiries. He said it won't happen again, but this is boxing and anything's possible. My guess is he comes back better than ever, and shows that he was worthy of all the hype he's been generating."

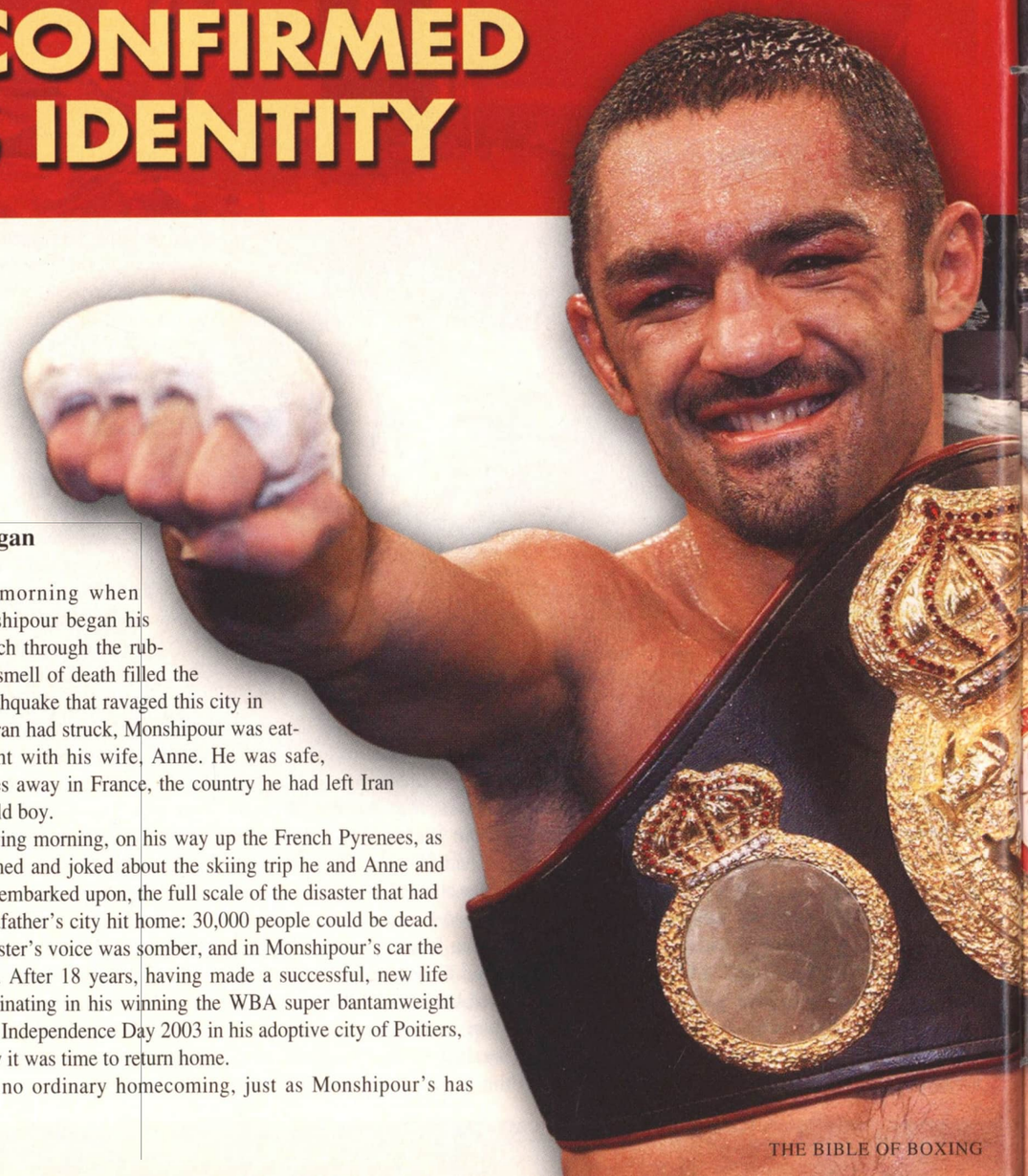
Trampler could very well be right, but at the very least, what Corley did to Cotto in Bayamon has made Cotto's attempt to reach Trinidad-like status far more intriguing. And from a boxing point of view, that's a very good thing indeed. ■

Robert Mladinich is a New York-based freelance writer and regular contributor to this magazine.

Super Bantam Titlist

Mahyar Monshipour

TRAGEDY RECONFIRMED HIS IDENTITY



By Brian Doogan

It was early morning when Mahyar Monshipour began his mournful march through the rubble of Bam. The smell of death filled the air. When the earthquake that ravaged this city in the southeast of Iran had struck, Monshipour was eating in a restaurant with his wife, Anne. He was safe, thousands of miles away in France, the country he had left Iran for as a 10-year-old boy.

But the following morning, on his way up the French Pyrenees, as Monshipour laughed and joked about the skiing trip he and Anne and some friends had embarked upon, the full scale of the disaster that had befallen his grandfather's city hit home: 30,000 people could be dead. The radio newscaster's voice was somber, and in Monshipour's car the laughing stopped. After 18 years, having made a successful, new life for himself, culminating in his winning the WBA super bantamweight title on American Independence Day 2003 in his adoptive city of Poitiers, Monshipour knew it was time to return home.

But this was no ordinary homecoming, just as Monshipour's has been no ordinary journey in life. He was born on March 21, 1975, New Year's Day on the Iranian calendar. His mother, Shahine, worked in a hospital and his father, Mehdi, in the national police. His parents divorced shortly after his first birthday. Custody of baby Mahyar was awarded by a judge to Shahine, but when she remarried, she returned her child to Mehdi.

"This turned out to be a good thing because I've been able to have a beautiful, strange, and interesting life," Monshipour reflected philosophically in mid-March during a break from training in Poitiers for his April 29 title defense against Shigeru Nakazato in Marseille, France.

Monshipour is an effervescent personality, bright and articulate. He's the assistant to the sports director of the

PHOTO BY ATTA KENARE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

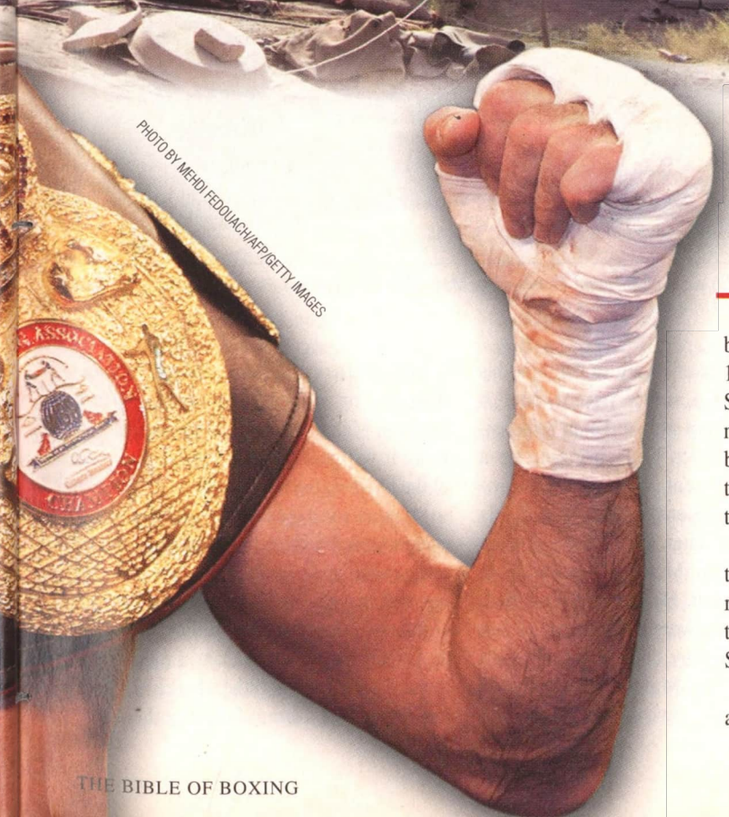


PHOTO BY MEHDI FEDOUACH/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A happy Monshipour celebrates a successful defense of the WBA super bantam belt (left), but his mood became somber when he learned of the deadly earthquake that killed almost 30,000 people in Bam, Iran, the home of the fighter's grandfather. Even though he hadn't been in his native country since he was a boy, Monshipour returned to help earthquake victims, many of whom have been forced to live in tents after their homes were destroyed (above).

PHOTO BY THIERRY ZOCCOLAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Monshipour reconfirms his superiority over Salim Medjkoune with an eighth-round knockout in May 2004 in Clermont-Ferrand, France. He had originally stopped Medjkoune in the 12th round to take the 122-pound title the previous year.

General Council of Vienna, a body heavily involved in providing aid to the victims of the Bam earthquake, and when his boxing career is over, he plans to take up a director's role. "I think if you come from a classic family environment, it could be difficult to accommodate the new life I came to make for myself. My parents' divorce turned out to be an opportunity for me, I'm sure."

His father was appointed sheriff of Ahvaz, the second town attacked by Saddam Hussein's army in the Iran-Iraq war. After a year of trying to combine his job with being a single parent, Mehdi decided he was not able to be as responsible as he needed to be in bringing up a young son, and sent Mahyar to the provincial town of Kerman to live with his aunt. Four years later, father and son were reunited in Tehran. Mehdi had moved there because of the war. He had also remarried. The Monshipours were a family again. But the arrival of a baby boy, Milad, changed everything again. Mahyar's stepmother "became hideous" toward him and insisted that he return to his aunt in Kerman. Angered by what he saw as his wife's betrayal, Mehdi left too, and for almost two years it was just Mahyar and his dad, one of the happiest times of his life.

"I was nine years old and we went everywhere together, to the cinema, out to restaurants, on little holidays. It was exciting and it was fun, the best period in my childhood," he related warmly. "We lived in a good house and then in a nice apartment. Every day my father, his driver, and me sat and had breakfast together, and

PHOTO BY MEHDI FEDOUACH/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Monshipour has his hands wrapped prior to his December 2003 title defense against Venezuelan Jairo Tagliaferro in Levallois, France. Monshipour credits his trainer, Mohammed Bennama, with his improved punching power that has resulted in seven kayos in his last seven starts.

then they brought me to school. After school, I always went to his office to do my homework.

"He was assistant chief of police in Tehran, but gradually he became less happy with his job because of the rise in support for various Islamic groups. He decided to send me to France to stay with another aunt, Mahnaz, and together we ran away from Iran. My father went to Canada and stayed there four years before settling in Holland, but I arrived, alone, in Poitiers, where I still live. I feel good in Poitiers and I will never leave 'my' town. I became a Frenchman, took citizenship, and have really been accepted as one. Here, I am the son or the brother of everybody.

"You know, I almost forgot I was once Iranian. There is no Iranian community here, no real contact with my former home. But since the day I heard of the earthquake—it's something strange, but something deep—I really feel Iranian again. I knew I had to do something about this catastrophe. I knew I had to go."

His dilemma was that the incredible odyssey that had brought him to France and far away from Bam was a one-way ticket. He had not done his military service in Iran. His father was a fugitive. In order to safeguard himself against any unpleasant predicaments, he took out insurance, enlisting the help of his promoters, the Paris-based Acaries brothers, to involve French TV network Canal+ and sports newspaper *L'Equipe* on this emotional trip home. It was December 2003, and Monshipour was unprepared for what he was about to see. He describes himself as "indestructible when I find myself inside the ropes," but as he walked the broken streets of Bam, he cried like a baby.

"It was a scene of devastation, a disaster of Biblical proportions, 30,000 people dead, hundreds of thousands of lives affected, many of them ruined," he related, the rawness of what he witnessed still evident in his quivering voice, his eyes lowered to the ground, his hands tightly clasped. "I saw bodies being pulled out of the wreckage. I felt the pain of mothers standing in the roads, grieving for their loved ones buried in the ruins, and heard children crying for their father and mother who were dead. In this town, my grandfather was born. I still have family there. It was a terribly moving experience, an enormous moment in my life. I could never forget it."

Nor could he simply walk away and do nothing.

"After I returned to France, I set up the France-BAM foundation with the aim of providing assistance to the disaster victims of the earthquake in my native land," Monshipour revealed, the enthusiasm burning brightly in his eyes. "We raised money, over $100,000, and presented that to the people of Bam. But we have also decided to finance the construction of a school. In Bam, it is very difficult to build. There is no equipment, no real expertise. Three architects from our foundation will go to Bam between April 9 and April 26, and one of them, an Iranian actually, will remain on for four months to begin building. The aim of the project is to build a school of six class-

PHOTO BY MEHDI FEDOUACH/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Inspired by the classic Hagler-Hearns slugfest, Monshipour attacks Tagliaferro en route to a seventh-round kayo victory. Monshipour strives for a knockout every time he fights because he wants to be "spectacular" and make the fans "shudder with emotion."

rooms, able to withstand an earthquake. We have over $100,000 raised already, but we need about $70,000 more. I'm calling on help from the European Union and from UNESCO to meet our budget target. But I believe in God and I know it will arrive."

It is with the same faith that Monshipour, 26-2-2 (17), began his career in boxing. He was 17 years old, late in life to be lacing on the gloves for the first time, and his aunt worried about the dangers of the ring. But he reassured her and galvanized himself for an all-out assault on the French championship first and world conquest later, his aggressive style and powerful punching earning himself the sobriquet "Little Tyson" along the way. For two years running, *L'Equipe* has made Monshipour the recipient of their annual Golden Glove award as France's top boxer.

"I never had idols," Monshipour insisted. "I'm a bit of an exception. I used to read books, children's books, Alexandre Dumas and other French authors, while I waited for my father to arrive and be with me. I still read today; I'm now reading *The Da Vinci Code*. I like reading about religion and history. But I also developed an admiration for fighters, boxers who can make you shudder with emotion because they are spectacular. This is why I always try to win by knockout, because you have to be spectacular to be different, to become well-known.

"Marvin Hagler-Thomas Hearns is my reference point, the real definition of boxing. I also like the Mexican fighters, Julio Cesar Chavez, Marco Antonio Barrera, Erik Morales, and, of course, Bernard Hopkins, the best fighter in the world today. I don't need boxing to live. I could do other things. But I do want to find out where I can get to by the end of this adventure. Outside the ring I am very composed, reflective. Inside I am dangerous, indestructible. I am 30 years old and my aim is to keep improving over the next two years, maybe to fight Oscar Larios in a unification bout, because everyone says that he is number one. I know by watching him that boxing is in his blood. He moves well, has good balance. But I have the heart to succeed in what I do.

"A man always begins boxing with a dream: to gain three francs or three pennies, to succeed socially—this was the case with me—or to make a reputation in the district, in the city you're from. It is necessary to want to prove something to yourself. This is why I have won my last seven fights by knockout, thanks to my trainer, Mohammed Bennama, who has developed my power. Always, a man must push himself. I have got to where I am because I've worked harder than everybody else."

It was against another Frenchman, Salim Medjkoune, that Monshipour broke into world class. He took the fight to the then-WBA titleholder from the first bell and did not let up until, in the last round, he landed a right hook to Medjkoune's jaw that left him on the canvas for several minutes. Monshipour's ring demeanor always conveys a kind of cold confidence, even when he tastes his own blood, as he did in both bouts against Medjkoune, the

Monshipour, who has become a French citizen, displays his golden glove award in 2003, which he received from L'Equipe *as France's Fighter of the Year. Monshipour won the award again for his accomplishments in 2004.*

PHOTO BY MEHDI FEDOUACH/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

second of which he won last year by eighth-round knockout. He has also made successful defenses against Jairo Tagliaferro (KO 7) and Yoddamrong Sithyodthong (KO 6). The two defeats early in his career, one by third-round knockout against Sandor Koczak, have been totally eradicated from his mind: "I am a different fighter since Bennama began to train me after 15 fights."

But he is the same man.

"I met my wife at university and I love her very much. My favorite way to spend time is with her," he said. "She is my whole family today. My father is far away. I really want to have children, but we don't have time at the moment. My wife works too. She is a psychologist. My boxing dream is to fight one day in Iran, but this will be difficult, so I'd like to fight in California. In Los Angeles, there is a great and productive Iranian community. One day I would like my children to be proud of what I did."

They will be proud one day no matter what he goes on to achieve in boxing. Monshipour wept the day he returned home to a grieving city, a stony graveyard where more than 30,000 lives had been claimed so cruelly. In that valley of tears he vowed to bring hope—the school he is building will be a fitting monument. ■

Readers who wish to make a donation, please make checks payable to "France-BAM." The address is Association "France-BAM," The General Council of Vienna, LP 319, 86008 Poitiers, France.

Brian Doogan is* THE RING*'s European correspondent.

The Man History Forgot

Long-forgotten Pinky Silverberg and the flyweight championship belt he received from the National Boxing Association in 1927. Until Silverberg's son, Ron, launched an investigation, Pinky's brief stint as a 112-pound titleholder had slipped between the cracks of history.

HOW PINKY SILVERBERG'S SON SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

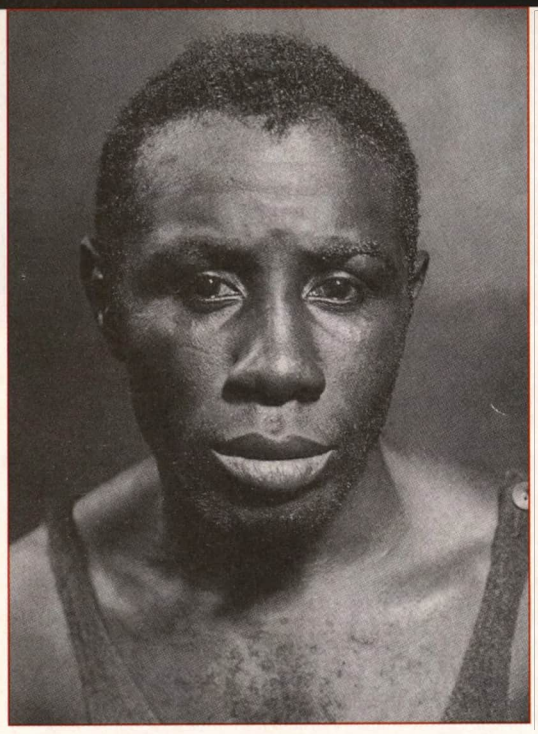
By Mike Silver

Ron Silverberg knows the quiet pride that the son of a former world champion prize fighter feels. As a child, he would often gaze at the handsome belt presented to his father for winning the National Boxing Association flyweight title on October 22, 1927. On that date, Pinky Silverberg fought Ruby "Dark Cloud" Bradley in a bout to determine the successor to Fidel LaBarba, the recently retired undisputed flyweight champion.

Both contenders hailed from New England, Silverberg from Connecticut and Bradley from Massachusetts. Their scheduled 15-rounder took place in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Silverberg won the bout—and the belt—when "Dark Cloud" Bradley was disqualified in the seventh round for landing a low blow.

The 1920s were a golden age for flyweights in terms of talent, activity, and money. Popular champions such as England's Jimmy Wilde, Filipino Pancho Villa, and California's Fidel LaBarba drew tens of thousands of people into Madison Square Garden and major league ballparks for their title fights.

In 1927, the top flyweight contenders included Frankie Genaro, Midget Wolgast, "Newsboy" Brown, Black Bill, and Corporal Izzy Schwartz. With that type of competition waiting for a shot, it would be no easy task for Silverberg to hold on to his newly won crown. But whatever the future might bring, the fact that he had already won a title meant that his name would be permanently inscribed in the



Ruby "Dark Cloud" Bradley was disqualified for punching low in his bout with Silverberg for the vacant NBA flyweight title. Bradley was one of many outstanding flyweights of the era, and like Silverberg, he fought several Hall of Famers.

record books along with the other champions of that transcendent decade. At least that is what his son expected when he decided to surf the Internet in search of information about his father's boxing career.

To his dismay, Ron Silverberg discovered that not one of the boxing Web sites he visited listed his father's name among former world champions. Was this simply an oversight? A search of *The Ring Record Book's* voluminous index of champions and title claimants also made no mention of his father's name. Neither did old copies of *Everlast* and *Police Gazette* record books from the 1920s and 1930s. It seemed to Ron as if the memory of his father's winning the title had somehow been purged from the annals of boxing history. If not for the fact that he still possessed the NBA title belt, Ron himself might have begun to have doubts. Puzzled and frustrated, he was determined to regain recognition of his father's accomplishment and find out why it had disappeared in the first place.

Ron returned to the Internet. He contacted the Cyberboxingzone, a Web site known for its meticulous boxing research, and explained to them that their site was missing a champion.

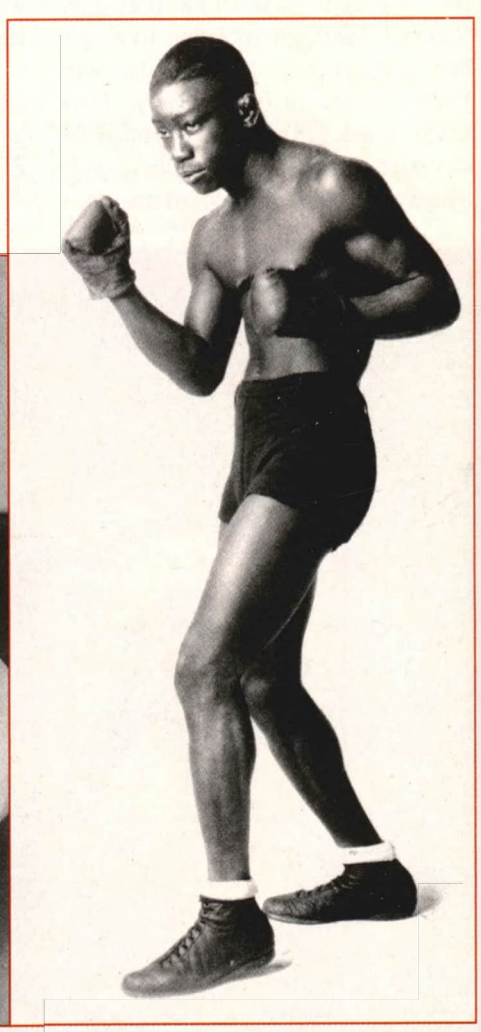
"A number of days later they e-mailed me back and said they never heard of my father," recalled Silverberg. "I contacted them again and told them I had proof (the championship belt) so their records must be mistaken. They indicated that for a $10 research fee they would investigate the matter."

He did not have to wait long for a reply

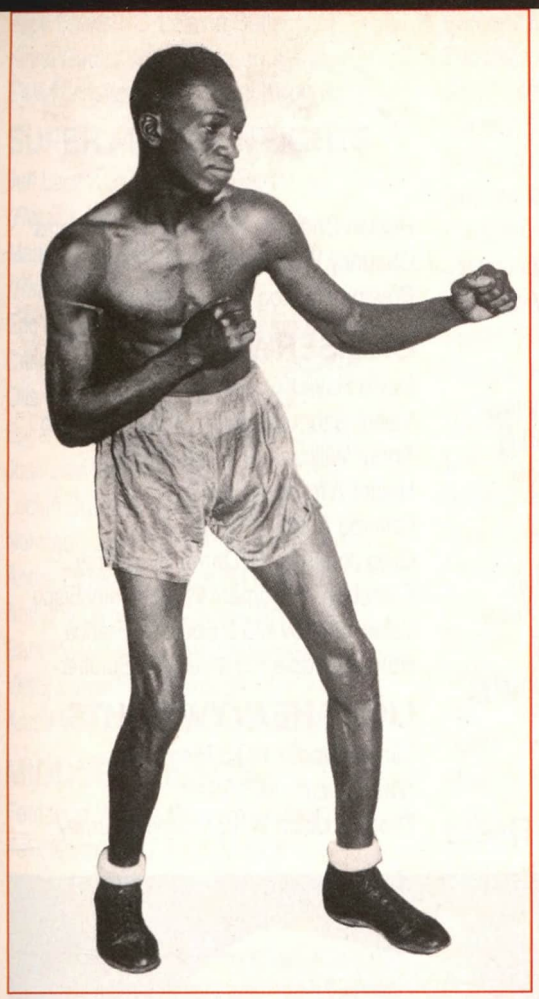
"Lo and behold, about a week later they got back to me and said they couldn't believe what they found," said Silverberg. "Not only had they verified my father winning the championship, but they also were able to document at least 78 of his professional fights. They could not understand how it just fell through the cracks, but would make sure their Web site was corrected accordingly.

"Ironically, a 1927 issue of *The Ring* magazine was found to contain a write-up about my father's winning the NBA title, but no one seemed able to explain why the title bout had never made it into the official record books."

Pinky Silverberg, who passed away in 1964 at the age of 59, rarely spoke about his boxing career. "It was never a point of discussion in the house," said Ron, who believes his father's reticence had a lot to do with the way he won the title. "My father was a very proud guy, and I'm sure his pride had something to do with the fact when he finally wins the belt, it goes to him on a disqualification. I just know it would be hard for him to accept that. He also never discussed the details as to how he lost the title. It was never made clear to me. And none of the boxing people I con-



The 1920s was a golden age for flyweights, and Silverberg tangled with many of the best, including title claimant and future Hall of Famer Midget Wolgast (above left) and the outstanding Black Bill (above right).



Shortly after beating Bradley for the NBA flyweight title, Silverberg moved up to the bantamweight division, where he faced Panama Al Brown (pictured) in Havana, Cuba, in January 1930. Brown won a 10-round decision.

tacted knew either. So I decided it was time to end this mystery once and for all, even if I had to do the research all by myself."

This past January, Ron paid a visit to a Bridgeport, Connecticut, library, where he spent hours poring over microfilmed copies of contemporary newspaper accounts in an attempt to find some answers. What he found out was that his father's tenure as champion was very brief, lasting only seven weeks. But he did not lose his title in the ring. On December 4, 1927, in a return match with Bradley in which he weighed over the 112-pound flyweight limit, Pinky lost a 10-round decision.

Within days of his loss to Bradley, the NBA president, Thomas E. Donohue, who also happened to be the Connecticut state boxing commissioner, decided to strip the new champion of the title because of what he deemed an "unsatisfactory showing" on the part of Silverberg. It remains the only time in boxing history that a champion was shorn of his title due to a poor performance in a non-title bout. Ruby Bradley quickly asserted his right to the championship, but since Pinky had weighed in over the flyweight limit for the rematch, his claim was ignored.

Donohue's real reason for taking Pinky's title may have been to smooth over internal discord within the NBA itself. According to an article in the *Ansonia Evening Sentinel*, dated October 12, 1927, Donohue had sanctioned the Silverberg vs. Bradley bout as an official title fight. However, on October 19, the *Boston Post* reported that although the match was supposed to have been sanctioned as a title bout, the NBA (consisting of 24 states and four foreign countries) announced at their convention the previous day in Toledo, Ohio, that a series of eliminators were being set up to find a suitable champion. Nevertheless, one week after his October 22 victory over Bradley, Silverberg was formally presented with his NBA championship belt at a special ceremony in Bridgeport.

After stripping Silverberg of the title, Donohue declared that the winner of the "Frenchy" Belanger vs. Ernie Jarvis bout scheduled for Toronto, Ontario, on December 19, would be recognized as the new champion. Three days after Belanger defeated Jarvis, Donohue learned that Pinky had fought his past several fights (including the return match with Bradley) with a broken hand. That fact prompted a public statement by the commissioner (as reported in the *Ansonia Evening Sentinel*) to the effect that Pinky would be given a shot at Belanger's title as soon as his hand had healed, but not before Belanger had defended his title against the number-one challenger, Frankie Genaro.

Meanwhile, on December 16, Corporal Izzy Schwartz had won the New York State Athletic Commission version of the flyweight title by beating "Newsboy" Brown. Belanger expressed a desire to meet Schwartz and unify the title, but Donohue demurred, insisting that Belanger fight Genaro first. To further complicate matters, on January 3, 1928, "Newsboy" Brown defeated Johnny McCoy (who, after Fidel LaBarba's retirement, claimed the lightly regarded California version of the title) and was now recognized by the California boxing commission as the new world champion. Then, on February 6, Belanger lost the NBA title to Frankie Genaro. Finally, in August, England's Johnny Hill, the European champion, claimed the title (California version) after beating "Newsboy" Brown.

At this point in his research, a dazed Ron Silverberg felt as though he had been hit by a solid left hook himself. It was now clear that amidst the confusing circumstances created by a plethora of conflicting title claims, Pinky's brief stint as champion, including details of the injustice done to him, had been obscured and eventually forgotten even as the names of other less legitimate titleholders were entered into the record books.

The division did not settle down until 1929, when a unification tournament was staged and Frankie Genaro emerged (briefly) as the generally recognized champion. The decade of the 1920s saw no less than 15 flyweights recognized as champion. All of them were documented and entered into the archives—all except Pinky Silverberg.

Pinky never did get his promised title shot. He soon outgrew the flyweight class and, for the next seven years, fought in the bantamweight division. During that time, he crossed gloves with the best fighters of his era, including Midget Wolgast (four times), Panama Al Brown, Kid Chocolate, Petey Sarron, Black Bill, Pete Sanstol, and Archie Bell. He was stopped only once, against Willie LaMorte in 1926.

With or without a title, Pinky Silverberg's record as a pro deserves respect. And now, thanks to the efforts of a proud and loving son, his name will take its rightful place among the pantheon of world titleholders, which is where it always belonged in the first place. ■

Mike Silver is a New York-based historian and freelance writer. Research assistance was provided by British historian Barry Hugman.

SUMMARY

HEAVYWEIGHTS

David Tua KO 10 Talmadge Griffis
Taurus Sykes W 12 Friday Ahunanya
Timo Hoffman W 12 Bob Mirovic
Sultan Ibragimov KO 3 Al Cole
Timor Ibragimov KO 3 Ronald Bellamy
Shannon Briggs KO 2 Demetrice King
Vladimir Virchis KO 12 Taras Bidenko
Brian Minto W 8 David Polk
Kevin McBride KO 5 Kevin Montiy
Albert Sosnowski KO 2 Travis Fulton
Alexander Dimitrenko W 10 Chris Koval
Robert Hawkins KO 5 John Poore
Peter Okhello KO 3 Ryosuke Takahashi
Rob Calloway KO 1 Daniel Frank
B.J. Flores KO 4 Cliff Nellon
Jean Francois Bergeron KO 4
Jimmy Joseph
Ruslan Chagaev W 8 Sherman Williams
Chauncy Welliver W 6 Ted Reiter
Preston Hartzog W 6 Wade Lewis

CRUISERWEIGHTS

David Haye KO 2 Glen Kelly
Mehdi Sahnoune KO 7 Roberto Coelho
Arthur Williams W 8 Tim Shocks
Hector Alfredo Avila KO 2
Orlando Antonio Farias
Greg Jones W 12 Darrin Humphrey
Giacobbe Fragomeni W 12 Daniel Bispo
Valery Burdov KO 2 Eduardo Franca
Ronald Boddie KO 4 Jeremy Stauffer

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Clinton Woods KO 5 Rico Hoye
(Wins Vacant IBF Title)
Thomas Ulrich W 12 Matthew Barney

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Hussein Hussein crashes a left on the jaw of Jorge Arce in a flyweight war

Stipe Drews KO 1 Kevin Butts
Kirino Garcia W 10 Eduardo Ayala
Elvis Michailenko W 10 Kai Kurzawa

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Jeff Lacy KO 7 Rubin Williams
(Retains IBF Title)
Markus Beyer W 12 Danny Green
(Retains WBC Title)
Eric Lucas W 12 James Crawford
Cristian Sanavia W 6 Eliseo Nogueira
Otis Grant W 12 Nader Hamdan
Epifanio Mendoza W 6 Vincent Harris
Jose Luis Lopez W 10 Hugo Lomeli
Lucian Bute KO 12 Christian Cruz
Norman Jones D 10 Ronald Weaver
Andre Dirrell KO 2 Jacob Rodriguez
Anthony Dirrell KO 2 Larry Brothers
Sam Reese W 10 Enrique Ornelas
Victor Lares W 6 Marcus Hicks
Ann Wolfe KO 1 Genevia Buckhalter

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Fernando Vargas W 10 Raymond Joval
Felix Sturm KO 2 Bert Schenk
Fernando Zuniga KO 7 Troy Rowland
Morrade Hakkar W 12 Jorge Sendra
Kelly Pavlik KO 2 Dorian Beaupierre
Peter Manfredo W 5 Miguel Angel Espino
Marco Antonio Rubio W 10 J.C. Candelo
Jozsef Nagy KO 8 Dean Walker
Sebastian Sylvester W 12
Christophe Tendil
Julio Cesar Vasquez W 8
Juan Carlos Villagra
Jim Rock W 8 Michael Monaghan
Carlos DeLeon Jr. KO 1 Mike Jackson
John Duddy KO 1 Leonard Pierre

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Alex Bunema W 12 Vince Phillips
Sergio Martinez KO 11 Albert Airapeitian
Matt Vanda W 10 Troy Lowry
Walter Matthysse KO 1 Raul Martinez
Viktor Fessetchko W 10 Vladimir Borovski
Taz Jones KO 1 Neil Sinclair
Verdell Smith W 8 Brooke Wellby
Matthew Hatton Tech. Win 6
Francis Jones
Avtandil Kuhrtsidze KO 3 Calvin Shakir

WELTERWEIGHTS

Gianluca Branco KO 6 Ariel Burgos
Juan Carlos Rubio W 10 Michael Stewart
Eamonn Magee KO 3 Allan Vester
Elio Ortiz KO 2 Carlos Robles
Chad Bennett KO 6 Oscar Samudio
Dimitriy Salita KO 2 Darelle Sukerow
Stephen Chungu W 10 Pascal Bruno
Demetrius Hopkins W 10 Norberto Bravo
Kazuhiko Hidaka KO 4 Rev Santillan
Joshua Okine KO 8 Fatai Onikeke
Wilfredo Negron W 8 Marteze Logan
Delvin Rodriguez W 8 Marteze Logan
Henry Crawford W 4 Alex Viramontes

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS

Lovemore Ndou KO 2 Jesar Ancajas
Souleymane Mbaye KO 5 Ivan Bustos
Raul Balbi KO 2 Norberto Acosta
Nedal Hussein KO 1 Obote Ameme
Carlos Wilfredo Vilches KO 4 Jorge Perez
Naoufel Ben Rabah KO 7 Dairo Esalas
Cristian Bejarano KO 1 Ernesto Gonzalez
Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. KO 3 Ryan Maraldo
Daniel Cervantes W 4 Tomondre King
Mary Jo Sanders W 6 Melissa Del Valle

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Jose Luis Castillo KO 10 Julio Diaz
(Retains World Title)
Almazbek Raiymkulov KO 6
Koba Gogoladze
Stefano Zoff W 12 Martin Kristjansen
Francisco Lorenzo W 10 Ivan Valle
Laszlo Bognar W 12 Kirkor Kirkorov
Chikashi Inada W 12 Dennis Laurente
Tontcho Tontchev KO 4 Rakhim Mingaleev
Jesus Rodarte W 4 Raymond Trejo

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS

Erik Morales W 12 Manny Pacquiao
Rocky Juarez KO 1 Juan Carlos Ramirez
Anthony Tshehla KO 7 Mbulelo Botile
Jose Cotto KO 7 Genaro Trazancos
Steven Luevano KO 5 Julian Rodriguez
Gamaliel Diaz W 10 Gerardo Zayas
Rogers Mtagwa W 10 Fernando Trejo
Baby Lorona Jr. KO 6 Joebar Damosmog
Chevelle Hallback W 10 Emiko Raika

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Fahprakorb Rakkiatgym KO 5 Pedro Malco
Kevin Kelley KO 8 Felix St. Kitts
Terdsak Jandaeng KO 4 Dondon Lapuz
Domenico Urbano Tech. Win 8
Osman Aktas
Allen Litzau KO 1 Jesus Valasquez

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS

Ratanachai Vorapin W 6 Joven Jorda
Sergio Manuel Medina KO 5 Juan Herrera
Saenghiran Lookbanyai KO 4 Rodel Orais
Somsak Sithchatchawal KO 2
Gonzales Bin Anur
Michael Hunter KO 6 Sean Hughes
Miguel Roman KO 5 Kosol Sor Vorapin
Al Seeger W 10 Paulino Villalobos

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Cruz Carvajal KO 6 Jorge Lacierva
Alexander Munoz KO 2 Over Bolanos
Luis Maldonado KO 2 Juan Centeno
Poonsawat Kratingdaenggym W 12
Reman Salim
Jose DeJesus Lopez W 10 Luis Blanco
Polito Gonzalez W 10 Arturo Bracamontes
Alicia Ashley KO 7 Elena Reid

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS

Martin Castillo W 12 Eric Morel
(Retains WBA Title)
Z Gorres KO 1 Glenn Donaire
Medgoen Singsurat KO 6 Dragon Zheng
Daisuke Maruyama W 10 Jerry Pahayahay
Masayuki Arinaga W 12
Waenpetch Chuwatana

FLYWEIGHTS

Vic Darchinyan KO 8 Mzukisi Sikali
(Retains IBF Title)
Jorge Arce KO 10 Hussein Hussein
Brahim Asloum KO 3 Jose Lopez Bueno
Jose Lopez KO 8 Luis Angel Martinez
Yura Dima KO 10 Sukarno Banjao
Fahpetchnoi Sor Chitpattana W 10
Orlan Enriquez
Juanito Rubillar KO 8 Flash Simbajon
Daigo Nakahiro W 10 Satoshi Takahashi
Francisco Arce KO 2 Cesar Martinez

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS

Eric Ortiz KO 7 Jose Antonio Aguirre
(Wins Vacant WBC Title)
Noel Arambulet W 10 Alejandro Ordonez
Chana Porpaoin D 6 Rocky Fuentes
Nerys Espinoza KO 7 Lee Sandoval
Masato Hatakeyama W 10 Tomoaki Handa

STRAWWEIGHTS

Satoshi Kogumazaka W 10 Teruo Misawa
Nkosinathi Joyi W 12 Mawanda Sineko
Makoto Suzuki KO 2 Gilbert Dela Torre

BOXING EQUIPMENT
EVERLAST
EST.1910
BRONX, NEW YORK

PRESENTS

The RING

FIGHTER *of the* MONTH

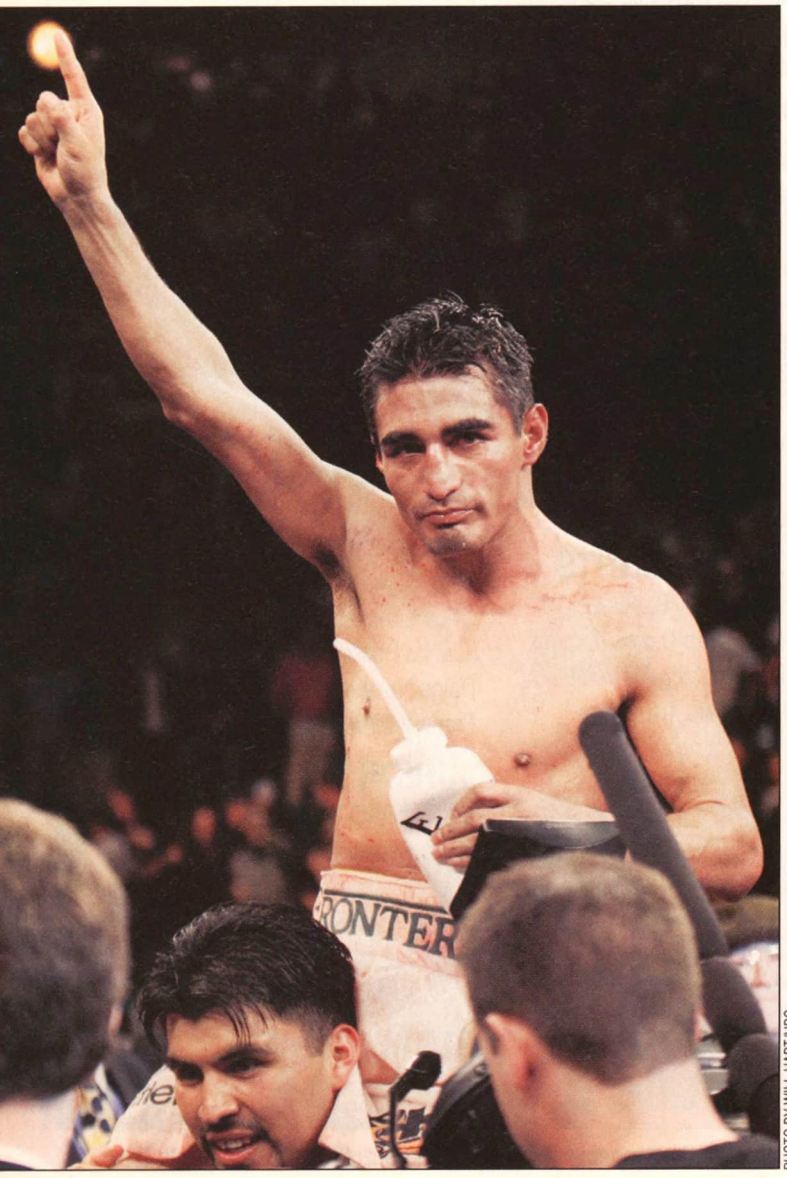


PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

The old adage goes, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." But Erik Morales isn't going to be joining Marco Antonio Barrera in anything anytime soon, so he opted for a different approach: If you can't beat 'em, beat the guy who *did* beat 'em. Morales took a gamble, agreed to fight ferocious Manny Pacquiao less than four months after losing to Barrera, and brilliantly outfought Barrera's conqueror to get a leg up of sorts on his most hated rival.

Many observers predicted that Morales would have major problems with Pacquiao's superior hand speed, but "El Terrible" boxed more intelligently than he has in quite a while, neutralizing that speed with an accurate jab and discomforting the Filipino with clever counterpunching. Was Morales' natural size advantage a factor? Probably, when you consider that the punches that bowled over Barrera and Juan Manuel Marquez at 126 didn't budge Morales at 130. But the more significant factors were that the Mexican superstar had the better arsenal and the better game plan.

On this night, he wasn't just the bigger man. He was the *better* man. And over the course of the month of boxing action between the previous issue of THE RING and this one, Morales was the *best* man.

• • • •

Erik Morales

RINGSIDE REPORTS

Jose Luis Castillo KO 10 Julio Diaz

Las Vegas, Nevada: World lightweight champion Castillo started slow, as he often does, but came on strong to totally outgun tough Diaz, dropping him twice on the way to a TKO win in the 10th round at the Mandalay Bay Events Center. The victory marked Castillo's second successful defense since defeating Juan Lazcano last June for the title vacated by Floyd Mayweather.

The more experienced Castillo, who defeated Joel Casamayor in his previous outing, allowed the taller Diaz to take control early with his long left jab. Diaz, 134½, Coachella, California, won the first round, and may have shaded the second as well. But over the next few rounds, Castillo, 135, Mexicali, Mexico, just kept coming forward, getting close, and landing solid left hooks to his opponent's head and body. Castillo would land his left hook to Diaz' body when Diaz threw his right hand. Then he would stay close and land short hooks to Diaz' face.

Clashes of heads in the fourth and eighth caused cuts over both of Diaz' eyes. The seventh round was close as Diaz tried to force the action, but Castillo showed why he has fared well against the likes of Mayweather, Stevie Johnson, and Casamayor, by taking back control of the fight in the eighth. Castillo's the kind of fighter who answers back almost anytime his opponent starts to gain confidence. Also, throughout the fight, Diaz continued to switch to southpaw and back again, but every time he switched, Castillo would land perfect straight right hands that he knew worked well against southpaws.

Diaz, 25, showed guts and determination by fighting back every time Castillo, 31, would land a hard shot, but by the ninth, Diaz' face was a mess. Both of his eyes were swollen, the left one nearly closed. Castillo pressed on, landing more punishing left hooks to Diaz' body.

In the 10th, Castillo landed a crisp left hook, putting Diaz down. Referee Richard Steele (USA) had a good look at Diaz and allowed the fight to continue. Diaz then walked onto a right uppercut from Castillo that put him down for a second time. This time, the referee stepped in to stop the action at 2:23 of the round.

"I knew he was fast ... but I didn't feel his punches," Castillo said of Diaz. "I felt I could go in there and take his punch and go after him."

Castillo, 52-6-1 (45), is expected to next face Diego Corrales on May 7. "I will take 15 days off," he said, "go back to the gym, and get ready. I think that will be enough time. This fight was tough, but not that tough."

Diaz, 30-3 (22), said, "I'm okay, just a little bothered by the headbutts. I lost vision in my left eye. I couldn't see no more. That's why he was landing all his punches. I couldn't see from the fourth on from the accidental headbutt."

Television: Showtime
Promoter: Top Rank
(3-5-05)
Wayne McCullough

Jeff Lacy KO 7 Rubin Williams

Las Vegas, Nevada: When Lacy became the IBF super middleweight titlist back in October 2004 by stopping Syd Vanderpool in the eighth round, his plan was to stay busy. He's certainly done that. Just five months later, he defended his title successfully for the second time, scoring a seventh-round TKO over the game Williams at the Mandalay Bay Events Center on the Jose Luis Castillo-Julio Diaz undercard.

"Every time I get into the ring these guys are trying to take this belt from around my waist," Lacy said. "They train hard, and I give them credit."

Lacy, 167, Tampa, Florida, who has a physique like a bodybuilder, came out swinging with his signature left hooks in the first round. Williams, 167, Detroit, Michigan, nicknamed "Mr. Hollywood," was the taller fighter, but did not use this to his advantage. Instead, Williams opted to lay on the ropes while trying to counterpunch the aggressive Lacy as he came in close. The challenger managed to sting Lacy with right hands from time to time, but didn't have the firepower to turn the fight his way.

Lacy, 27, marched forward, slipping punches, moving his head. The first three rounds belonged to Lacy, as Williams, 28, retreated to the ropes and was out-

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

World champ Castillo rips Diaz with a right uppercut

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

The power of Lacy begins to overwhelm gutsy Williams

worked and outlanded. Lacy landed solid lefts and rights to Williams' body. In the final 30 seconds of the second round, Lacy unloaded, landing good, short hooks that had Williams in trouble, but Mr. Hollywood fought back and survived the round, showing a good chin.

Williams' best round of the fight probably was the fourth. He landed two straight rights to Lacy's head as Lacy came in. And at the end of the round, two accurate left hooks sent Lacy's head backward.

In the fifth and sixth, Lacy continued to hit Williams to the body. He threw a left uppercut, left hook to the head, and left hook to the body combination that rocked Williams. Lacy unloaded again near the end of the sixth with furious short hooks and uppercuts that had referee Tony Weeks (USA) staying close. The bell came and saved Williams from a stoppage.

Lacy knew that Williams was finished, so he came out in the seventh and immediately started throwing power-punches with bad intentions. Left and right hooks landed for Lacy, and Williams was unable to answer back. Referee Tony Weeks stepped in at 0:47 of the round, giving Lacy, 19-0 (15) with 1 no-contest, a TKO win.

"He did hit me hard, but I have a great chin," said Lacy, even though it was his opponent's chin that got more work on this evening. "I am conditioned and I can take it. Of course, I want Joe Calzaghe by the end of this year. I got a mandatory coming up. I want to take care of that business first."

Williams, 26-2 (15), showed tremendous heart and guts and definitely came to fight. But that just was not enough against the stronger, more talented "Left Hook" Lacy.

Television: Showtime

Promoters: Top Rank, Gary Shaw Productions

(3-5-05)

Wayne McCullough

Markus Beyer W 12 Danny Green

Zwickau, Germany: The intensity and controversy that lingered from their first battle in August 2003 guaranteed excitement when Beyer, 167, Cologne, Germany, and Green, 166, Sydney, Australia, went to war again, and the 4,000-plus who jammed into the Stadthalle were not disappointed. The German titleholder had retained the WBC super middleweight belt by disqualification when Green's headbutts and some dubious officiating blighted their initial engagement, but Beyer's boxing was the decisive factor the second time around—though he was made

PHOTO BY UWE MEINHOLD/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Green's late rally wasn't enough to dethrone Beyer

to endure real crisis in the final round when Green had him out on his feet before the titlist clung on to seal a majority points win.

The problem for the Australian challenger was that he had been unable to do earlier in the fight what he managed in the 12th. Beyer picked his punches superbly, countering well and attacking the body effectively. Unlike in their blood-splattered bout of 19 months before, Green failed to seize the initiative, mindful perhaps that being too aggressive again could have unfortunate consequences. But the truth is that he failed to fight his fight and found himself out-thought and outmaneuvered.

"I let Markus Beyer dictate the fight to a certain degree," Green admitted. "I'm disappointed that I didn't do enough to win."

Green, 19-2 (18), made a circumspect start, leaving Beyer to take the round with minimum effort, scoring just a few notable shots to the head and body. The southpaw titleholder, in his third reign, offered very little target to the taller, harder-punching challenger. Green did penetrate Beyer's guard in the second with a good left hook, but was warned by American referee Laurence Cole a little later for simultaneously holding and hitting below the belt. Through three rounds, Beyer was in control, sending Green's gumshield flying from his mouth at the end of the third.

But the Australian made inroads in round four, cracking Beyer with a succession of solid blows, applying pressure, and taking the play away from the local man. Jeff Fenech, Green's manager and trainer, was pleased with his man's work at last. Beyer had a better fifth, but the more powerful punches were landed by Green again in the sixth and he rocked back Beyer's head with two strong right hands.

Into the second half of the bout, it appeared that Green might be ready to step it up decisively, but in the last minute of round seven Beyer rallied, firing in a right cross and left hook that dislodged Green's gumshield again. The to-and-fro nature of engagement continued into the eighth, Green commanding the center of the ring with Beyer trying hard to counter. But the frustration of being unable to land a sustained string of punches that might have swung the bout completely his way crept into Green's work in the ninth. He butted Beyer near the end of the round, and referee Cole had to warn him. Beyer landed a solid left cross just before the bell to chasten him more.

In rounds 10 and 11, both fighters wilted, but the 12th brought everything that was left out of their bodies. A wicked right and left to the temple from Green hurt Beyer at the start of the round, and he staggered across the ring with Green in pursuit. The Australian's wildness cost him at this point. When they both fell into the ropes, the referee decided to issue a standing eight-count to Beyer, 32-2 (12). The 33-year-old beltholder clinched until his head cleared, and he even managed to steel himself to fight back before the final bell. Fenech had warned Green from the end of the 10th that he required a knockout to win.

Massimo Barrovecchio (Italy) scored it a draw, 114-114. But Marty Denkin (USA) scored it 115-112 for Beyer, and Anek Hongtongkam (Thailand) had the German ahead 114-113. THE RING also scored for Beyer, 115-113. But the 32-year-old Australian's promoter, Wayne Loxley, vowed to arrange a third meeting between the pair in Perth later this year.

Promoter: Wilfried Sauerland

(3-12-05)

Brian Doogan

Jorge Arce KO 10 Hussein Hussein

Las Vegas, Nevada: You can usually expect a lot of punches to be thrown when two lighter guys get into the ring, but the common perception is that the punches of the little men lack power. Arce and Hussein showed that flyweights can throw a lot of shots *and* do damage with them as they battled in an outstanding fight on the Erik Morales-Manny Pacquiao undercard. Both guys beat each other up for 10 hard rounds before Arce won by TKO at 2:07 of the 10th in front of a sellout crowd of 14,623 fans at the MGM Grand Garden Arena.

Arce suffered a bad cut on the bridge of his nose in round five, caused by an accidental headbutt, and his face was covered in blood for most of the fight afterward. "Like always, the Mexicans fight hard and we never give up," Arce said after the fight. He did show plenty of guts, but he also had a ridiculous size advantage, having made 112 pounds at the weigh-in before, unofficially, blowing up to 130 pounds by fight time. Hussein also hit the scales at 112, but was, according to the unofficial scales, nine pounds lighter than "El Travieso" when they got in the ring.

The fans were cheering these two fighters from start to finish because the action was fast from the first bell, with Arce, Los Mochis, Mexico, coming straight out and forcing Hussein, Bankstown, Australia, onto the back foot. Arce hurt Hussein with a good left hook in the opening round and it looked like it might be a short fight, but Hussein came back well to regain his composure and fight on. He clearly outboxed Arce in the second round, and may have gotten the better of the third as well.

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Arce drills battered Hussein with a right

But Arce, who became extremely popular in Mexico while appearing on the reality TV show *Big Brother*, took over in the fourth. His bodywork was wearing his opponent down slowly, and despite the nasty cut, he was in control entering the sixth.

From round six onward, Hussein, 29, and Arce, 25, fought in the proverbial phone booth, toe-to-toe, exchanging hard blows. Hussein remained very competitive until the eighth, when he was deducted a point for holding behind the head. Arce had tremendous energy and seemed to get stronger every round.

Arce's face was a mess of blood, but Hussein's face had swollen up in the last few rounds as well. The Australian tried to stand his ground in the ninth, but Arce kept landing hooks to his opponent's head and body.

Hussein got hit hard in the 10th by a big left hook and showed amazing heart trying to fight back, but Arce just kept his punches coming. As Hussein finally dropped from a right-left combination while pinned in a neutral corner, his trainer, Jeff Fenech, jumped into the ring to save his fighter from any more punishment, and referee Vic Drakulich (USA) immediately called a halt.

Hussein, 26-2 (20), was upset about the stoppage, but he fought hard and showed guts, so he should be back.

Arce, 39-3-1 (29), said, "When I was in the fight, the doctor came over and took at look at my cut. But I kept saying to the doctor, 'Just one more round and I know I will knock this guy out,' and that is what I did. I knocked him out." Now that former junior flyweight titlist Arce has a good win on his resume at 112 pounds, he's expected to challenge THE RING's number-one flyweight, Pongsaklek Wongjongkam, in July.

Television: HBO PPV

Promoters: Top Rank, M&M Sports

(3-19-05)

Wayne McCullough

Martin Castillo W 12 Eric Morel

Las Vegas, Nevada: Facing a well-regarded former titleholder in the first defense of your title is a dangerous proposition, but Castillo made his fight with Morel an easy one, outboxing the challenger to win a unanimous decision at the MGM Grand Garden Arena on the Morales-Pacquiao undercard.

Castillo, 115, Mexico City, Mexico, won the WBA super flyweight title in his previous fight, last December, against then-unbeaten Alexander Munoz. Morel, 115, San Juan, Puerto Rico, the taller of the two, was generally considered the top man at flyweight from August 2000 until December 2003, when, after five defenses, Morel lost his belt and his perfect record on a close decision to Lorenzo Parra.

Castillo likes to come forward, slipping punches well and throwing solid bodyshots. Morel is a slick boxer/mover who usually wins with his boxing skills. But Castillo, who had lots of amateur fights and, just like Morel, competed in the 1996 Olympics, pushed forward the whole fight, often making Morel fight at uncomfortably close quarters.

In the first round, Morel, 29, had success doing what he usually does by boxing and moving. But that was it for him, as Castillo, 28, took over in the second and landed a double left hook in the third that rocked Morel.

By the middle rounds, the action had become predictable and Morel was becoming less and less competitive. Morel came back a little in the seventh, but could not keep the stalking Castillo at bay. The bodywork from Castillo slowed Morel down in the final few rounds.

A clash of heads in the 10th caused a cut on Castillo's left eye, but it was not serious. Big right hands rocked Morel's head back in the 11th, and Castillo tried to move in and stop Morel. However, the Puerto Rican proved elusive and also fought back in

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

Castillo closes the distance and abuses Morel along the ropes

spots. Morel, 35-2 (18), started the last round the fresher of the two, but Castillo took over and got the best of a final round that packed little drama.

All three American judges, Glen Feldman, Dick Houck, and Doug Tucker, scored the fight 119-109 for Castillo. THE RING had it 118-110, also for Castillo, 28-1 (16).

Television: HBO PPV

Promoters: Top Rank, M&M Sports

(3-19-05)

Wayne McCullough

Clinton Woods KO 5 Rico Hoye

Rotherham, England: He'd shared a ring with Roy Jones—a still able Roy Jones—and had been outclassed. Twice he had gone the distance with Glen Johnson, THE RING's 2004 Fighter of the Year, and had even held him to a draw on one of those occasions. But Woods, 174, Sheffield, England, was seemingly destined never to experience a taste of alphabet glory until Johnson's abdication of the IBF light heavyweight belt (to stage a more prestigious bout with Antonio Tarver for THE RING championship) presented this opportunity with Hoye, 174½, Detroit, Michigan. And Woods took the opportunity with both hands by stopping the American at 2:59 of round five. Woods' delight, in front of more than 2,000 screaming fans at the Magna Centre, was well deserved.

Woods has been a model of patience throughout his career. When he started out in 1994, he was in the shadow of other Sheffield fighters like Naseem Hamed and Johnny Nelson, and a points defeat against David Starie at super middleweight in 1998 suggested that he might never make the world stage. But he moved up to light heavy, won the British, Commonwealth, and European belts, and remained unbeaten until fighting Jones in 2002, when he was stopped in six rounds. The draw against Johnson was followed by a conclusive defeat on points by the Miami-based Jamaican, but Woods did not give up. Hoye was the lucky recipient of a split decision victory over Montell Griffin to elevate him in the rankings, and Woods was confident he had his number: "He's a good fighter, but he's no Johnson and he's certainly no Jones."

Hoye, 18-1 (14), began well by landing to Woods' body, but a left hook clearly shook him toward the end of the opening round and it was followed up by another. They punched on after the bell, but the look on Woods' face was of a grim determination not to be denied. Hoye, on the other hand, was about to have his inexperience exposed. He started well again in the second round, but failed to get through Woods' guard with anything telling and suddenly found himself under pressure once more, staggered by another left over his low hands. He rallied in the third, forcing Woods to the ropes, but had to take a heavy right hand before he finally asked questions of Woods with a solid right uppercut to the jaw. Woods took the shot well and fired back with a succession of blows and, in particular, a left hook to the body left Hoye wincing.

PHOTO BY JOHN GICHIGI/GETTY IMAGES

Woods exults after finally earning a strap

The Motor City fighter tried to reply in kind in the fourth, but too many of his punches to Woods' body strayed low and a point was deducted by British referee Ian John Lewis.

Hoye, 30, tried to get into the fight in the fifth, but more low blows resulted in a second point deduction. He was tiring, and Woods, 32, sensed his chance. A two-fisted assault sent Hoye reeling into a corner. He tried to fight his way out, but was overpowered. A stream of hard rights rained down on his head, one rocking his head back violently, before a follow-up left uppercut almost sent him to the canvas. Hoye managed to stay upright, but referee Lewis could see his distress and stepped in with only one second of the fifth round remaining. His timing was wholly appropriate.

"I really have one priority and that is to have a third fight with Glen Johnson," declared the victorious Woods, 37-3-1 (23). "He has proved in his fights against Roy Jones and Antonio Tarver that he is currently the best fighter in this division and that's why I want to fight him again." Another possible opponent is Welshman Joe Calzaghe, the unbeaten super middleweight who is considering rising in weight.

Promoter: Dennis Hobson

(3-4-05)

Brian Doogan ■

New Face

(Continued from page 20)

boxing. It was a positive way to fill time, an alternative to playing video games for the youngster who, while attending high school, was also helping his mother with the bills by working as a cashier at a local grocery store.

Butler dabbled in high school football, but got hooked on boxing the first time he sparred. A fighter with vastly greater experience popped the 15-year-old Butler in the face and busted his nose. Butler was intent on getting better so that he could one day get revenge.

"I wanted to get him back because I never got popped in the nose like that without being able to throw someone down on the ground," Butler said. "I wanted to go back to get better. Boxing became more fun because I was learning how to throw proper punches. It kept me interested, so I kept going back."

Besides avenging his bloody nose, ego was the other powerful motivation. You see, Raphael Butler never lost a fight before. He was always very large for his age, and consequently, always a target in the hardscrabble area of Rochester.

He was so unusually large at 13 that he looked like he was 17. When he walked down the street, he cast an imposing figure, which made him attractive muscle for local gangs.

Butler enjoyed hanging out with the gangs, even if he never quite became a member. He liked the way they lived, the way they carried themselves as if rulers of their domain. But there came a time when, after continuous badgering, one of the gang members had had enough with the oversized Butler. He demanded an answer from Butler—in or out! Butler chose to go in a different direction and stop hanging with the gang. But trouble seemed to follow.

Because he was building a bit of a reputation with a few victories in street brawls, Butler became a target. Grown men, Butler said, used to accost him daily. They wanted to test this Baby Huey to see if he was as bad and tough as the people in the neighborhood said he was.

"You would think being a big guy, no one would test you at all," Butler recalled. "It was all about who could whup me. I was always pushed into fights. I used to hate fighting. But I never lost a streetfight."

Butler thought he could carry that hard edge into the ring. He quickly found out otherwise with that first sparring session. But by 1999, he was competing—and succeeding—in national amateur tournaments. He was also living in the gym—literally.

Dan O'Connor was Butler's amateur coach and, along with Dick Wood, still trains Butler today. O'Connor's Fourth Street Gym has a tiny room, slightly larger than a typical jail cell, overlooking the facility. When he started boxing, Butler's two sisters and mother were crammed into a two-bedroom apartment with two others, forcing Raphael to sleep on a couch for three years. At the gym, Butler had a tiny cot and a small TV. The accommodations made the room inhabited by Morgan Freeman's character in *Million Dollar Baby* look like a luxury hotel suite. In fact, when Butler comes back to Rochester (he now lives primarily in Colorado Springs), that tiny room is where he still stays.

Since O'Connor entered Butler's life at 15, the two have forged such a strong bond that O'Connor is like a surrogate father to Butler, who has a strained relationship with his biological father. It was O'Connor who used to bring Butler to the various amateur tournaments. At the 2004 USA Boxing Nationals, Butler caught the attention of Wood and fight manager Steve Munisteri, who has moved such heavyweight contenders as Ike Ibeabuchi.

Wood and Munisteri took the trip to Colorado Springs scouting for talent last year, originally not intending to look at Butler.

"I scout the nationals, and Dick helps me," Munisteri said. "We were actually looking at another ring, looking at other fighters, when my eyes just drifted toward Raph's fight. He lost the fight on the scorecards (to Nick Firtha), but to me, he seemed to do everything you need as a pro. He's Ike without the problems."

Wood wants to move Butler slowly, but he has progressed faster than expected. Since Butler is just 21, Munisteri, Wood, and O'Connor have time on their side. In the meantime, a number of major promoters have approached Munisteri about Butler, with the frontrunners being Goossen-Tutor and Main Events. But there are some technical areas Wood would like to tighten before Butler advances.

"I'd like to see Raphael put his elbows in a little tighter to protect against bodyshots, and I'd like to see him punch off movement," Wood said. "I see him moving, but I want to see him score. He's enjoyed learning angles. It will be very important for his future development. Raph's jab and speed and are second to none. His movement is also very good too; he boxes like a middleweight."

Butler still fills much of his spare time playing video games—and he hates to lose.

"No one knew I was an angry kid, because I wouldn't let it show. I would sit and play my video games," Butler said. "The video games actually became my friend. The reason why I think I still play video games so much is because they helped me through my childhood. It gave me a getaway."

If Butler keeps winning, his thumbs may one day be pushing a joystick with him as the lead character. ■

THE RING BOXING ALMANAC

Limited quantities of the *Ring Boxing Almanacs* are still available. Send a check or money order for $7 each (postage included) to: London Publishing Co., P.O. Box 910, Ft. Washington, PA 19034.

Please check issue(s) desired; I have enclosed $7 each as payment in full:

- ☐ 1997 Ring Boxing Almanac
- ☐ 2001 Ring Boxing Almanac
- ☐ 2002 Ring Boxing Almanac
- ☐ 2003 Ring Boxing Almanac
- ☐ 2004 Ring Boxing Almanac
- ☐ 2005 Ring Boxing Almanac

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

_____APT. _____

CITY _____

STATE_____ ZIP _____

In all countries outside the U.S., please add $3 for every issue to be sent airmail or $1.50 for every issue to be sent surface mail. International money orders in U.S. funds only. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

6550/03-04

BOXING FIGHT POSTERS, PROGRAMS, ART PRINTS, T-SHIRTS, PHOTOS & AUTOGRAPHS

AUTOGRAPHED BOXING GLOVES
(Single Gloves, Guaranteed Authentic)

Roberto Duran or Michael Spinks ...$150.00 ea.
Joe Frazier or Jake LaMotta ...$175.00 ea.
Muhammad Ali ...$600.00
Marvin Hagler or Bernard Hopkins ...$150.00 ea.
Sugar Ray Leonard or Shane Mosley ...$125.00 ea.
Vinny Pazienza or Tommy Morrison ...$100.00 ea.
Mike Tyson ...$250.00
Larry Holmes or Arturo Gatti ...$125.00 ea.
Oscar de la Hoya or Roy Jones ...$195.00 ea.
Carmen Basilio or Vito Antuofermo ...$95.00 ea.
Archie Moore or Lennox Lewis ...$200.00 ea.
George Foreman or Evander Holyfield ...$325.00 ea.
Felix Trinidad or Fernando Vargas ...$175.00
Vinny Paz or Joey Gamache ...$75.00 ea.
Willie Pep or Kid Gavilan ...$175.00
Hector Camacho or Alexis Arguello ...$125.00

FIGHT PROGRAMS

ALI/BUGNER or ALI/MATHIS ...$400.00 ea.
ALI/COOPER II or ALI/LONDON ...$350.00 ea.
ALI/FOREMAN or ALI/BUGNER (Closed Circuits) ...$100.00 ea.
ALI/FRAZIER or ALI/INOKI (Closed Circuits) ...$150.00 ea.
ALI/FRAZIER or ALI/MILDENBERGER ...$1000.00 ea.
ALI/FRAZIER II or MARCIANO/CHARLES ...$500.00 ea.
ALI/FRAZIER III (Closed Circuit) ...$100.00
ALI/HOLMES or ALI/NORTON III ...$125.00 ea.
ALI/NORTON (warehouse find) Now just ...$75.00
ALI/NORTON II or ALI/YOUNG ...$600.00 ea.
ALI/QUARRY II or TYSON/GREEN ...$500.00 ea.
ALI/ROBINSON or BASILIO/DEMARCO ...$450.00 ea.
ALI/SPINKS (VG) or ALI/SPINKS II ...$250.00 ea.
BENN/MCCLELLAN or HAGLER/HAMSHO II ...$50.00 ea.
BOWE/GOLOTA I or II ...$35.00 ea.
CAMACHO/DURAN or CAMACHO/RAMIREZ ...$25.00 ea.
CAMACHO/ROSARIO, plus Tyson ...$50.00
CARBAJAL/GONZALEZ, Delahoya/J. Mayweather ...$50.00
CHAVEZ/CAMACHO or DELAHOYA/TRINIDAD ...$40.00 ea.
CHAVEZ/KAMAU or PAZ/LUCAS ...$10.00 ea.
CHAVEZ/MAYWEATHER II or SAAD/BRAXTON ...$25.00 ea.
CHAVEZ/TAYLOR or CHAVEZ/RANDALL ...$35.00 ea.
DELAHOYA PRO DEBUT or MARCIANO/CHARLES II ...$500.00 ea
DELAHOYA/CHAVEZ II or DELAHOYA/CARR ...$30.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/GATTI or DELAHOYA/CHARPENTIER ...$25.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/QUARTEY or DELAHOYA/TYSON ...$45.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/MOSLEY or DELAHOYA/MOSLEY II ...$35.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/WHITAKER or HOLYFIELD/MOORER ...$45.00 ea.
DURAN/GONZALEZ '99 or FOREMAN/STEWART ...$45.00 ea.
FOREMAN/QAWI or VARGAS/QUARTEY ...$35.00 ea.
GATTI/ROBINSON II, VARGAS/CAMPAS ...$45.00
HAGLER/HEARNS or HAGLER/ROLDAN ...$66.00 ea.
HAGLER/MUGABI or HAGLER/OBEL ...$45.00 ea.
HAMED/KELLY or HAMED/BARRERA ...$40.00 ea.
HEARNS/BARKLEY I or II ...$35.00 ea.
HEARNS/HILL or HEARNS/ROLDAN ...$25.00 ea.
HOLMES/MERCER or LEONARD/CAMACHO ...$15.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/BOWE I, II or III ...$75.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/FOREMAN or HOLYFIELD/LEWIS ...$75.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/HOLMES or CAMACHO/HAUGEN II ...$35.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/LEWIS II or HOLYFIELD/RUIZ II ...$25.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/QAWI or PALOMINO/STRACY ...$150.00 ea.
ROY JONES PRO DEBUT or SANCHEZ/LOPEZ ...$600.00 ea.
JONES/DELVALLE or JONES/JOHNSON ...$30.00 ea.
JONES/GRIFFIN or HAMED/MCCOLLOUGH ...$25.00 ea.
LEONARD/DURAN or HEARNS/CUEVAS ...$125.00 ea.
LEONARD/DURAN II or ROSSMAN/GALINDEZ ...$50.00 ea.
LEONARD/HEARNS I or II ...$65.00 ea.
LEWIS/BRUNO or LEWIS/MCCALL ...$45.00 ea.
LEWIS/TUCKER or LEWIS/GOLOTA ...$30.00 ea.
LOUIS/SHARKEY or LOUIS/GALENTO ...$600.00 ea.
LOUIS/NOVA or ROBINSON/DOWNES ...$500.00 ea.
MANCINI/CAMACHO or PALOMINO/GREEN ...$75.00 ea.
MANCINI/CHACON or MANCINI/ESPANA ...$25.00 ea.
PAZIENZA/BURGESE & JONES JR./JOHNSON ...$60.00
PAZIENZA/DURAN I or II ...$25.00 ea.
PAZIENZA/JONES or PAZIENZA/GRAHAM ...$40.00 ea.
ROBINSON/TURPIN or DELAHOYA AMATUER ...$300.00 ea.
TYSON/FRANCIS or LEWIS/RUDDOCK ...$50.00 ea.
TYSON/BRUNO or TYSON/HOLMES ...$100.00 ea.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD I or II ...$20.00 ea.
TYSON/MCNEELEY or HAMED/SOTO ...$15.00 ea.
TYSON/SPINKS or TYSON/WILLIAMS ...$85.00 ea.
TYSON/SMITH or TYSON/SAVARESE ...$45.00 ea.
TYSON/STEWART or TYSON/TILLMAN ...$75.00 ea.
TYSON/TUBBS or TYSON/DOUGLAS ...$250.00 ea.
TYSON/BIGGS or TYSON/BRUNO II ...$80.00 ea.
TYSON/RIBALTA or TYSON/NELSON ...$1000.00 ea.

8 X 10 AUTOGRAPHED PHOTOS

MUHAMMAD ALI ...$500.00
OSCAR DELAHOYA or ROY JONES ...$80.00 ea.
JOE FRAZIER or FELIX TRINIDAD ...$85.00 ea.
LARRY HOLMES or ANDREW GOLOTA ...$45.00 ea.
MAX SCHMELING or ARCHIE MOORE ...$75.00 ea.
JAKE LAMOTTA or BEAU JACK (BW) ...$75.00 ea.
TIM WITHERSPOON or CARL WILLIAMS ...$20.00 ea.
JOHN RUIZ or ERNIE SHAVERS ...$25.00 ea.
WILLIE PEP or FERNANDO VARGAS ...$45.00 ea.
SUGAR RAY LEONARD or FLOYD PATTERSON ...$50.00 ea.
EMILE GRIFFITH or DANA ROSENBLATT ...$15.00 ea.
LENNOX LEWIS ...$85.00
CARMEN BASILIO or HECTOR CAMACHO ...$35.00 ea.
CARLOS PALOMINO or RAY MANCINI ...$35.00 ea.
SAAD MUHAMMAD or VINNY PAZ ...$25.00 ea.
MARVIN HAGLER or KID GAVILAN (BW) ...$75.00 ea.
EVANDER HOLYFIELD ...$100.00
MIKE TYSON ...$150.00
TOMMY MORRISON ...$65.00
KEN NORTON or MELDRICK TAYLOR ...$35.00 ea.
INGEMAR JOHANSSON or IRAN BARKLEY ...$20.00 ea.
ROBERTO DURAN or ARTURO GATTI ...$35.00 ea.

FIGHT T-SHIRTS

MUHAMMAD ALI • CAMACHO/DURAN • TYSON/HOLYFIELD '91
HECTOR CAMACHO • JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ • DELAHOYA/CARR
LEWIS/TYSON • CHAVEZ/CAMACHO • DELAHOYA/CHARPENTIER
DELAHOYA/CHAVEZ II • DELAHOYA/GATTI • DELAHOYA/KAMAU
DELAHOYA/MOSLEY • DELAHOYA/MOSLEY - II • ALI/NORTON
DELAHOYA/QUARTEY • DELAHOYA/TRINIDAD • FELIX TRINIDAD
DELAHOYA/STURM-HOPKINS/ALLEN • DELAHOYA/VARGAS
DELAHOYA/WHITAKER • OSCAR DELAHOYA • ROBERTO DURAN
V. KLITSCHKO/SANDERS • HAGLER/HEARNS • HAMED/BARRERA
HOLYFIELD/HOLMES • HOLYFIELD/MOORER II • LEONARD/HEARNS
HOLYFIELD/RUIZ II • HOLYFIELD/STEWART • ROY JONES JR.
MERCER/MORRISON • MANCINI/HAUGEN • ROCKY MARCIANO
HOPKINS/DELAHOYA • JONES/GONZALEZ • LEONARD/DURAN II
LEONARD/DURAN III • MOSLEY/STONE • LEONARD/NORRIS
HAGLER/LEONARD • MAYWEATHER/HERNANDEZ • GATTI/DORIN
MAYWEATHER/RIOS • MORALES/BARRERA II • 92 OLYMPIC TRIALS
PAZIENZA/ROSENBLATT • IRON MIKE TYSON (XL Only)

***Just $18.00 each* (choose XL or L)**

GREAT MOMENTS IN BOXING

8"x10" B&W Action Photos — Just $4.50 ea.

- Robinson/LaMotta Fight
- Louis-Schmeling Battle
- Dempsey beats Willard
- Marciano slugs Lastarza
- Robinson beats Basilio
- Tunney/Dempsey Battle
- Sanchez/Lopez Battle
- Pep vs Saddler Fight
- Marciano's KOs Walcott
- Robinson slugs Gavilan
- Sanchez beats Gomez
- Ali floors Liston
- Hagler nails Hearns
- Leonard defeats Hearns
- Frazier upsets Ali
- Graziano - Zale classic
- Ali-Foreman Battle
- Marciano KO's Louis

8"x10" B&W Photos - Just $4.50 ea.

Ali • Basilio • Delahoya • Chavez • Corbett • Frazier
Dempsey • Duran • LaMotta • Leonard • J. Johnson
Jones Jr. • Louis • Marciano • Foreman • Hagler
Tyson • Sullivan • Robinson • Pep • Sanchez • Holyfield

8"x10" COLOR PHOTOS - $5.50 ea.

Ali • Delahoya • Hagler vs. Hearns • Chavez
Bowe vs. Golota • Gatti • Duran • Foreman
Frazier • Hagler • Hearns • Holyfield • Leonard
Leonard vs. Hearns • Mancini • Barrera • Morales
Ali vs. Frazier • Ali vs. Foreman • Ali KO's Liston
Marciano • Tyson • Jones Jr. • Hagler vs. Duran

BASEBALL CAPS - $17 EA:

GATTI/DORIN • CHAVEZ/DELAHOYA • TYSON/HOLYFIELD • MIKE TYSON
DELAHOYA/CAMACHO • DELAHOYA/KAMAU • TYSON/BERBICK
MOORER/FOREMAN • HAMED/BARERRA • DELAHOYA/RUELAS
PAZIENZA/DURAN • DELAHOYA/WHITAKER • HOPKINS/DELAHOYA
KLITSCHKO/SANDERS • HOLYFIELD/MOORER II • Team DURAN
DELAHOYA/MOSLEY • TYSON/HOLYFIELD II • JONES/GONZALEZ
DELAHOYA/QUARTEY • DELAHOYA/GATTI • TYSON/RUDDOCK II
JONES/PAZIENZA • OSCAR DELAHOYA • MORALES/BARRERA II
TYSON/BRUNO II • DELAHOYA/MOSLEY II • DELAHOYA/TRINIDAD
TYSON/SELDON • LEWIS/MORRISON • MAYWHEATHER/HERNANDEZ

FIGHT POSTERS

CLAY/LISTON (repro.) or ALI/FRAZIER III (Repro) ...$25.00 ea.
CLAY/LISTON (repro.) on Canvas 40" x 24" ...$250.00
ALI/FRAZIER I (LeRoy Neiman Poster) ...$600.00
ALI/FRAZIER I (Closed Circuit) POSTER ...$300.00
ALI/FRAZIER III (Closed Circuit) NEIMAN ...$125.00
ALI/HOLMES ...$125.00
ALI/FOREMAN (Closed Circuit) Poster ...$500.00
BARRERA/JONES or BARRERA/DIAZ ...$25.00 ea.
BOWE/GOLOTA or BOWE/GOLOTA II ...$50.00 ea.
CAMACHO/ROSARIO or CHAVEZ/CAMACHO ...$75.00 ea.
CHAVEZ/DELAHOYA or CHAVEZ/ALI ...$10.00 ea.
CHAVEZ/RAMIREZ or CHAVEZ/MITCHELL ...$75.00 ea.
CHAVEZ/TAYLOR or CHAVEZ/TAYLOR II ...$35.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/HOPKINS (English or Spanish) ...$10.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/CAMACHO or DELAHOYA/RIVERA ...$20.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/CAMPANELLA, Jones/Tate ...$45.00
DELAHOYA/CHAVEZ II or DELAHOYA/TRINIDAD ...$25.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/MOSLEY or DELAHOYA/MOSLEY II ...$30.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/VARGAS or DELAHOYA/GATTI ...$30.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/QUARTEY or DELAHOYA/CASTILLEJO ...$20.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/RUELAS or DELAHOYA/HERNANDEZ ...$25.00 ea.
DELAHOYA/WHITAKER or DELAHOYA/GONZALEZ ...$20.00 ea.
JACK DEMPSEY 16"X 20" B&W POSTER ...$45.00
DEMPSEY/TUNNEY II (Reproduction) ...$25.00
DURAN/BENITEZ or DURAN/CAMACHO ...$25.00 ea.
FOREMAN/GRIMSLEY or FOREMAN/MORRISON ...$30.00 ea.
FOREMAN/MOORER ...$175.00
FOREMAN/SAVARESE or HERNANDEZ/GERENA ...$5.00 ea.
HAGLER/DURAN or FOREMAN/COONEY ...$35.00 ea.
HAGLER/HEARNS ...$150.00
HAGLER/LEONARD or HAGLER/MUGABI ...$65.00 ea.
HAMED/BADILLO or HAMED/MOLINA ...$10.00 ea.
HAMED/CABRERRA or HAMED/HARDY ...$15.00 ea.
HAMED/JOHNSON or HAMED/VAZQUEZ ...$10.00 ea.
HEARNS/BARKLEY II or LAZARRAGA/MEDINA ...$10.00 ea.
HEARNS/HILL or HEARNS/ROLDAN ...$30.00 ea.
HOLMES/COONEY or HOLMES/SMITH ...$35.00 ea.
HOLMES/SHAVERS or HOLMES/M. SPINKS ...$30.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/BOWE BUD POSTER ...$25.00
HOLYFIELD/BOWE III or LEONARD/CAMACHO ...$75.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/CZYZ or HOLYFIELD/FOREMAN ...$35.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/DOUGLAS ...$60.00
HOLYFIELD/HOLMES or HOLMES/MERCER ...$10.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/LEWIS ...$85.00
HOLYFIELD/MERCER or JONES/PAZIENZA ...$45.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/MOORER I or II ...$20.00 ea.
HOLYFIELD/RAHMAN or JONES/WOODS ...$25.00 ea.
TYSON/GOLOTA or JONES/GRANT ...$35.00 ea.
JONES/GRIFFIN II or JONES/JOHNSON ...$20.00 ea.
JONES/HARDING or JONES/HARMON ...$25.00 ea.
JONES/GONZALEZ or MCCULLOUGH/ZARAGOSA ...$15.00 ea.
LEONARD/DURAN II ...$40.00
LEONARD/DURAN III or LEONARD/LALONDE ...$45.00 ea.
LEONARD/HEARNS I or II ...$40.00 ea.
LEWIS/GOLOTA or LEWIS/TUCKER ...$10.00 ea.
LEWIS/GRANT or LEWIS/BOTHA ...$30.00 ea.
LEWIS/RAHMAN or LEWIS/TYSON ...$25.00 ea.
MANCINI/CAMACHO or MORRISON/LEWIS ...$45.00 ea.
MANCINI/CHACON or PAZIENZA/DURAN II ...$20.00 ea.
MARCIANO/CHARLES (Theatre, folds) ...$750.00
MARCIANO/MOORE (Professionally Framed) ...$8,000.00
MARCIANO/WALCOTT (Reprint) or LEWIS/TUA ...$25.00 ea.
MAYWHEATHER/CORRALES or MAYWHEATHER/CASTILLO ...$10.00 ea.
MORALES/BARRERA II (English or Spanish) ...$20.00 ea.
MORALES/BARRERA III or MORALES/AYALA ...$10.00 ea.
MORALES/MCCULLOUGH or MORALES/RAMIREZ ...$5.00 ea
MORRISON/HIDE or SAVARESE/DOUGLAS ...$10.00 ea.
MORRISON/MERCER or MORRISON/RUDDOCK ...$35.00 ea.
MOSLEY/TAYLOR or MOSLEY/DIAZ ...$10.00 ea.
NELSON/HERNANDEZ or MORALES/BUENO ...$5.00 ea.
PAZIENZA/CAMACHO or PAZIENZA/DURAN ...$50.00 ea.
TAPIA/AYALA or PAZIENZA/ROSENBLATT ...$20.00 ea.
TRINIDAD/WHITAKER or TRINIDAD/PETTWAY ...$20.00 ea.
TRINIDAD/THIAM or TRINIDAD/VARGAS ...$35.00 ea.
TRINIDAD/CHERIFI or TRIPLE HITTER - Duran/Sims ...$30.00 ea.
TYSON/TUBBS or TYSON/BERBICK (LeRoy Neiman) ...$150.00 ea.
TYSON/BRUNO II or HOLYFIELD/BYRD ...$20.00 ea.
TYSON/DOUGLAS or TYSON/SMITH ...$225.00 ea.
TYSON/HOLMES or TYSON/BIGGS ...$35.00 ea.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD '96 or TYSON/SELDON ...$65.00 ea.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD II - 5/3/97 (Cancelled) or DELAHOYA/CARR ...$5.00 ea.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD II or MAYWHEATHER/C. HERNANDEZ ...$10.00 ea.
TYSON/RUDDOCK II or TYSON/SAVARESE ...$75.00 ea.
TYSON/STEWART or TYSON/FRANCIS ...$50.00 ea.
TYSON/TUCKER or TYSON/TILLMAN ...$45.00 ea.
IRON MIKE TYSON or SUGAR RAY LEONARD POSTER ...$15.00 ea.
HBO POSTER featuring 11 color photos of fights ...$5.00
Roger Clemens vs. Pedro Martinez BB Fight Poster ...$50.00

WWW.BOXINGPOSTERS.COM

Ordering Info.: Please include $7 P&H per package (Foreign Countries $15 per package ground or $25 air)
Send To: BOB PACE, P.O. Box 698, Lynnfield, MA 01940 or call w/AMEX, Disc., VISA or MC — (781) 284-4954

The RING FLASHBACK

Through The Years With "The Bible Of Boxing"

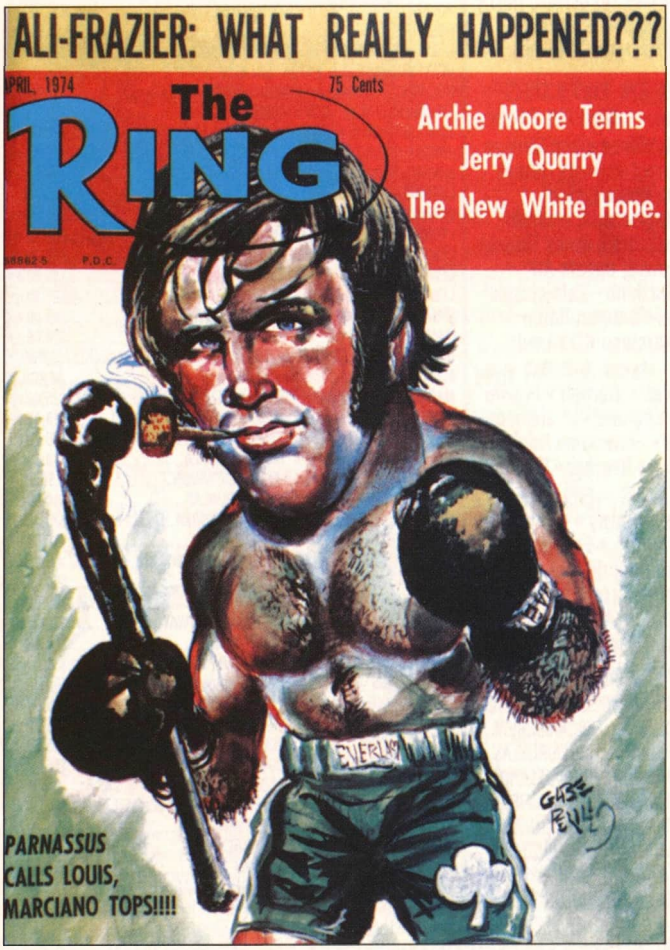
APRIL 1974

COVER STORY: "Quarry Best White Puncher Since Jeff, Says Moore" The Moore quoted in the headline is former light heavyweight champion Archie, who also authored the article. Moore, who had retired from gloved combat more than a decade earlier, was so impressed by Quarry's first-round knockout of Earnie Shavers that he wrote, "Not since Jim Jeffries has a great White Hope appeared on the fistic scene with the explosive punching power of Jerry Quarry."

Moore went on to credit Gil Clancy for moving Quarry's career to a point where the California heavyweight was "standing hip deep in the long green." Still, despite the hyperbole, the "Old Mongoose" took a backhanded poke at Quarry's big victory by relating a lengthy tale about how Jeff "Candy Slim" Merritt had once broken Shavers' jaw in a sparring session. He also chided Arthur Mercante, "one of the world's top-10 timid refs," for stopping the Quarry-Shavers fight so quickly.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about the article is how Moore worked some of his homespun philosophy into the copy. For instance, he defined a "fall guy" as "not the guilty culprit, merely the victim of circumstances." And in reference to Clancy, he wrote, "Clancy may not always be right, but he's seldom wrong."

Moore wasn't a Hall of Fame writer, but he had a distinctive style that separated him from many of his meat-and-potatoes colleagues of that era.

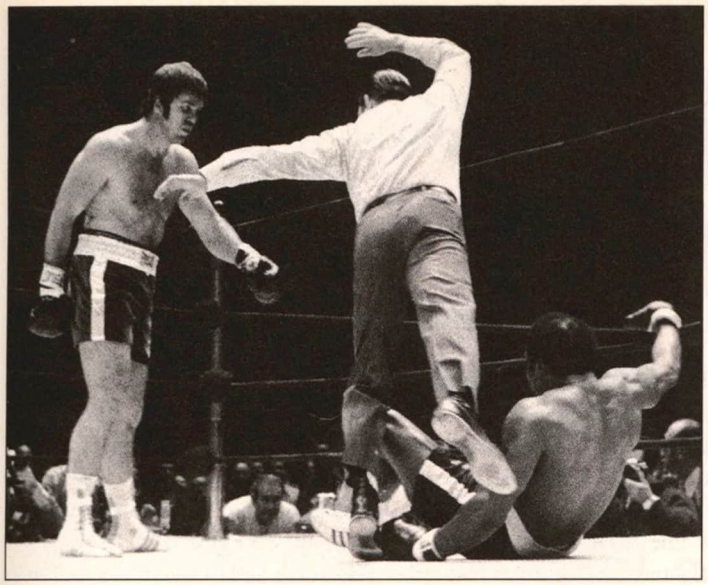


"Watch Out For No. 3 In Rich Ali-Frazier Series; No. 2 Decision Justified" The decision to feature Quarry on the cover rather than the second Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier fight was probably predicated by the fact that, despite the historical ramifications and the $1,530,688 gate created by a crowd of 20,748 at Madison Square Garden, it wasn't a particularly good fight. Associate Editor Dan Daniel pretty much summed up the situation when he wrote, "Number Two was a good fight. But neither contestant measured up to his own self of his world championship days. This is natural, what with age and punches having made their natural demands on the pair."

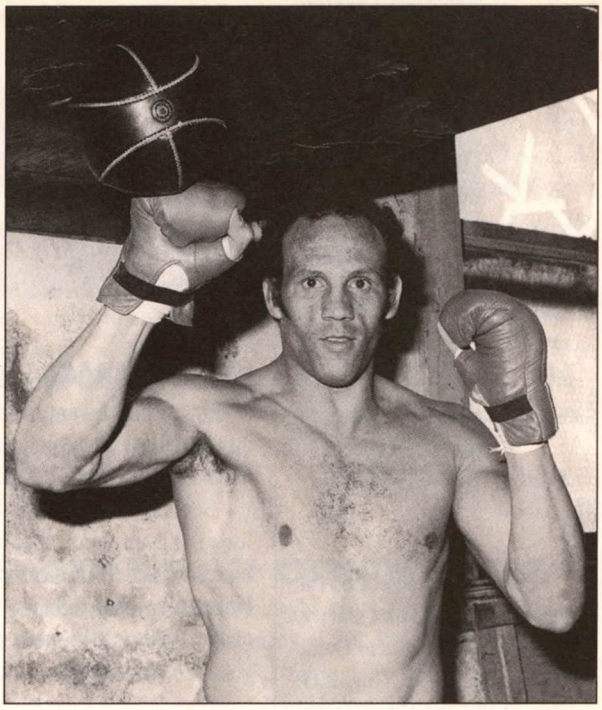
It's interesting to note that although the name "Ali" is used in the headline and captions, throughout most of the article Daniel referred to him as Cassius Clay, which was indicative of the mindset that persisted among many white, old-school journalist of that time. It must have been

WORLD CHAMPIONS
(for the period ended February 15, 1974)

Heavyweight: George Foreman
Light Heavyweight: Bob Foster
Middleweight: Carlos Monzon
Welterweight: Jose Napoles
Junior Welterweight: Antonio Cervantes
Lightweight: Roberto Duran
Junior Lightweight: Ben Villaflor
Featherweight: title vacant
Bantamweight: Arnold Taylor
Flyweight: title vacant



Quarry dumps Shavers in the first



Heavyweight Lovell wows West Coast fans

especially galling to Ali, who had changed his name almost a decade earlier.

"Foster-Fourie Fight Seen Leading To New South African Policy" Light heavyweight champion Bob Foster's 15-round decision over Pierre Fourie in Johannesburg was the first sanctioned match between a black and white boxer in the history of South Africa. RING correspondent Ed Clark credited South Africa's Minister of Sports, Dr. P. K. Koormhoff, for making the fight possible and wrote that it could be "an augury of more contests of that nature." Clark proved correct, as the ban of white vs. black matches was soon lifted throughout the country, which still was mired in the apartheid system of government.

"South American Lovell: Medical Student Turned Fighter" Argentina's heavyweight prospect, Pedro Lovell, is profiled by Bill Caplan, who paints Lovell as a "man who makes his living from boxing, but could just as easily be a poet or an artist." Allan Malamud, boxing writer for the *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner*, is quoted as saying, "He's the most cheerful fighter I've ever known."

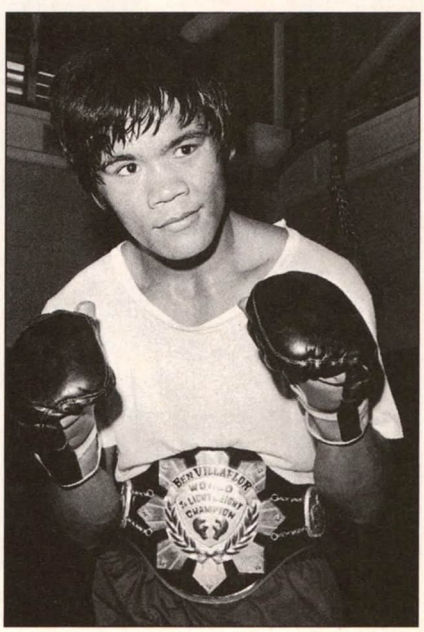
Lovell had every reason to be happy, as he'd just come off a first-round kayo of Terry Krueger, who had handed Lovell his only pro defeat so far.

Lovell did indeed come across as a merry warrior. When asked if he had any messages for his fans, he said, "I'm sending kisses to my fans. Well, really I'm sending kisses to the ladies, and also to the men under 12 and over 50. To the other men, I'm offering a handshake."

The buzz surrounding Lovell lasted only a short period. He was knocked out by Ken Norton in 1976, and retired in '77 following a decision loss to Mike Weaver, leaving an overall pro record of 18-3-2 (14).

Ali-Frazier II was nowhere as good as the original

"Briscoe Stops Warren In 7 After Slow Start" The report of middleweight Bennie Briscoe's bloody TKO of journeyman Willie Warren in Atlantic City was spiced by a description of the brawl that took place at the conclusion of the semifinal between future WBA light heavyweight titleholder Mike Rossman and Lester Camper. Camper appeared to be leading going into the sixth and final round, when he was decked by a left hook from Rossman. Camper beat the count, but when he was dropped again, referee Lew Eskin stopped the fight. This prompted an irate Camper fan to leap into the ring and tackle Rossman from behind, igniting a wild melee that quickly spread to the ringside seats. Pandemonium reigned for several minutes before police finally restored order. ■



Bantamweight champion Villaflor

COME OUT WRITING

Letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity. Send your comments to Come Out Writing, The Ring, P.O. Box 1148, Fort Washington, PA 19034. Or e-mail letters to comeoutwriting@yahoo.com. E-mailed letters will include the writer's e-mail address unless a city and state of origin is provided.

SETTING AN EXAMPLE

First of all, I want to thanks THE RING for doing away with the alphabet ratings and for establishing THE RING championship policy. Every true boxing fan knows that the real champs are those that have THE RING belt. It's one of the best things to happen to boxing in recent years.

Second, I would like to say thanks to fighters like Glen Johnson, Antonio Tarver, and Julio Diaz for giving up their alphabet titles to fight for the true championship. You guys will definitely get more respect from me for fighting for THE RING belt rather than some piece of crap alphabet title. Hopefully, other fighters will follow your lead and help to do their part to clean up the sport. To all of the fighters who have given up bogus belts to fight for the real championship title, I say thank you. We old school boxing fans appreciate it.

SAM ROBERTS JR.
backwoodsmoron@hotmail.com

ANOTHER "BOMBER" DEFUSED

Is Howard Eastman going to be the new Herol Graham? Both middleweights may go down as our era's best 160-pounders never to capture a world title. They both have/had good boxing skills and punch power, but just as "The Bomber" failed three times to capture the crown, I feel "The Battersea Bomber" is destined for the same.

Where will Eastman go from here? Unless Bernard Hopkins moves up to light heavyweight to challenge Glen Johnson or Antonio Tarver, he will be remembered as another "nearly" man from Britain.

JAY COBDEN
Colchester, England

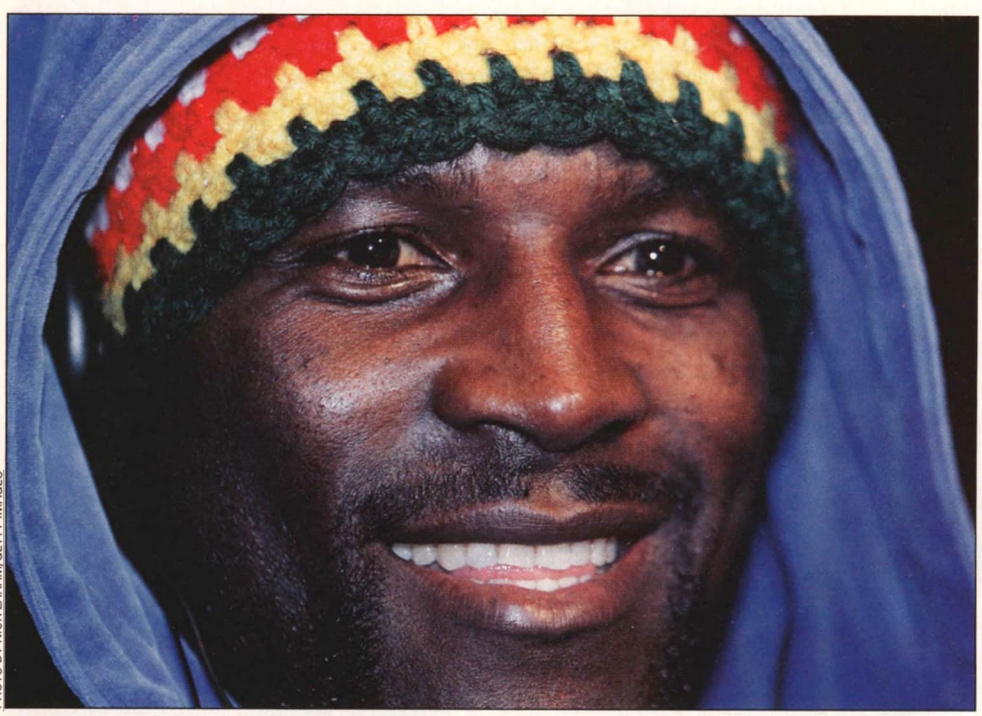


PHOTO BY NICK LAHAM/GETTY IMAGES

Although he went the distance, Englishman Howard Eastman didn't come close to taking the middleweight title away from champion Bernard Hopkins. Reader Jay Cobden thinks that Eastman could go the way of Herol Graham, another fine British middleweight with the "Bomber" nickname who failed to win the title.

CONGRATS & A QUESTION

I would just like to congratulate Bernard Hopkins on his 20th middleweight title defense. With his victory over Howard Eastman, Hopkins has defeated possibly one of the last worthy contenders. I think he should fight just one more time, against Jermain Taylor or Winky Wright, and then retire as one of the greatest middleweight champions of all-time.

Also, I would like to know whatever happened to former WBC super lightweight champion Saensak Muangsurin? He, like a lot of other great Asian fighters, held his title for several years, but never fought here in the United States or even on U.S. television.

SAMUEL ROBERTS
superstarsam2003@yahoo.com

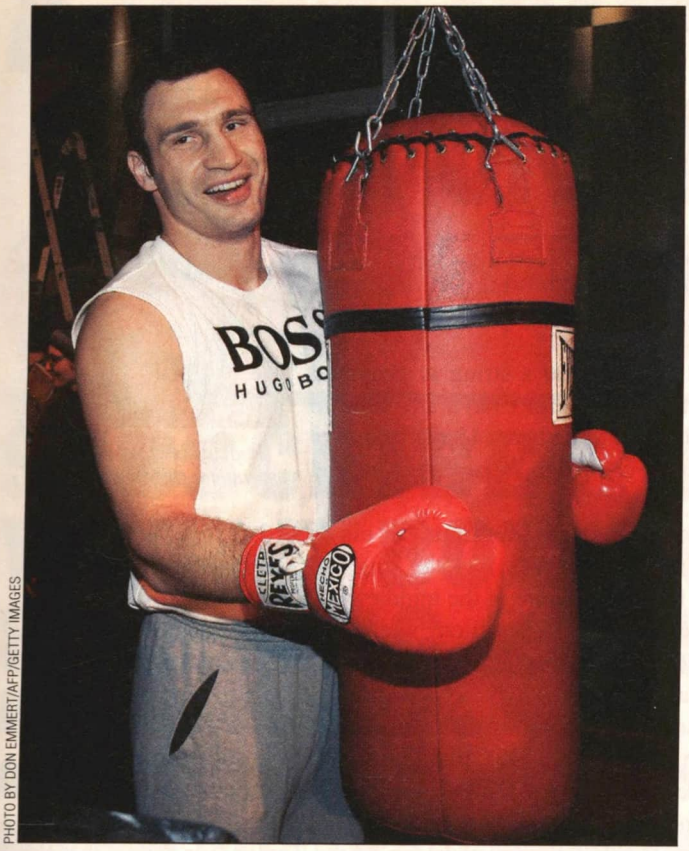


PHOTO BY DON EMMERT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Heavyweight champion Vitali Klitschko hugs his favorite sparring partner while getting ready for his fight with Danny Williams. Reader Jerry Shewchenko writes to let us know that as far as he's concerned, Klitschko is much more than just another "white hope."

[Editor's note: Muangsurin retired after losing a 12-round decision to Chung Jae Hwang on April 5, 1981, with an overall record of 14-6 (11). Muangsurin is probably best remembered for winning the WBC 130-pound belt in his third pro fight, an eighth-round TKO of Perico Fernandez. The Thai slugger had previously competed as a kick boxer before switching to orthodox boxing.]

SUPER MIDDLE SMORGASBORD

With everyone's eyes on the deep junior welterweight division right now, it seems that another division with some intriguing talent, super middleweight, is getting overlooked. Folks may be starting to get familiar with Jeff Lacy and have known of Joe Calzaghe for a while now, but these two count among their peers undefeated Dane Mikkel Kessler, who is said to be a monstrous bodypuncher, and Danny Green, the explosive-punching Australian.

Underneath them are intriguing contenders such as veteran warriors Scott Pemberton and Omar Sheika, top contenders like the controversial Anthony Mundine, serious prospects like Librado Andrade, and two dangerous young middleweights that look moments from moving up, Jermain Taylor and Kelly Pavlik.

Note to HBO, Showtime, and ESPN: Showcase this division by putting these guys into the ring together.

PAUL S. HABERMAN
Hempstead, NY

MORE THAN JUST A WHITE HOPE

There are many ignorant people in various boxing circles who think that the only reason Vitali Klitschko is pushed into a high ranking is because he is a "white hope." There could not be a shallower interpretation of Klitschko's personal and boxing attributes.

To start, he is well-educated and a good example to all. He wanted world recognition and big American money, so he moved his family here, and, unlike many other foreign fighters, he has diligently learned to speak English. He speaks positively and shows interest in the well-being of others and is involved in UNESCO for the good of children around the world. It's easy to root for Vitali because he seems like such a nice, positive person who worked hard to get where he is and who is continuing to work hard.

JERRY SHEWCHENKO
Livonia, MI

CONTENDER COMMENTS

I watched the first four episodes of *The Contender* on NBC and enjoy the format. I noticed that many of THE RING magazine's "New Faces" are on the show. While I'd much prefer watching a real boxing card on TV, *The Contender* shows boxers in a good light, which is a positive thing. It is also much better than Oscar De La Hoya's reality show, *The Next Great Champ*, which was a stinker.

DAVID JOENKS
Santa Clara, CA

LAY OFF LENNOX

This is a response to Eric Montiel's letter in THE RING DOUBLE, Volume 3, 2005. I agree that Lennox Lewis would get knocked out by Vitali Klitschko if he came out of retirement, but remember that is the only scenario in which that could happen. The bottom line is that if Vitali could ever have beaten Lennox, he already would have done so. Lennox accepted Klitschko as a new opponent on 11 days notice, which is unheard of in the modern era.

PHOTO BY DAVE HOGAN/GETTY IMAGES

Former heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis presents Bob Marley's widow, Rita, with an award at the U.K. Music Hall of Fame induction in London. Reader Shane Hale writes to defend Lewis and express his opinion as to why the British boxer never got the respect he deserved.

Lennox is one of only three heavyweight champions to retire as champion and stay retired. Would Montiel call the other two, Gene Tunney and Rocky Marciano, quitters? I doubt it. Lennox defeated every man he faced, and it's a shame that he doesn't get the respect he deserves. I guess people fall in love with the bad guy who disgraces the sport. I still believe that many people cannot stand the fact that Lewis crushed Mike Tyson, and I believe that is the root cause of people's dislike of Lewis, though no one will admit it.

SHANE HALE
Pikeville, KY ■

LOOKING AHEAD

By Joe Santoliquito

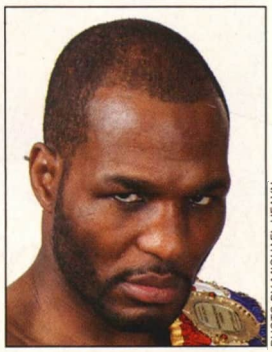


PHOTO BY MICHAEL HEAYN

Hopkins isn't yet ready to surrender middleweight belt

"THE EXECUTIONER'S" SWAN SONG?

Each fight now represents a dwindling pearl on a string to **Bernard Hopkins**, and the world middleweight champ doesn't have any time to waste as he has vowed that he will retire before he turns 41 next January 15. So "The Executioner" wants his 2005 campaign to be as active and meaningful as possible.

After hammering out a decision over **Howard Eastman** for his record 20th title defense in February, it looks like Hopkins will be stepping back into the ring on July 16 to take on former Olympian **Jermain Taylor**, who many feel is the future of the middleweight division.

According to Hopkins, he will collect at least $3-million, while Taylor will earn a career-best $1.5-million. Three possible sites were being discussed, Las Vegas, Memphis, or Los Angeles, where Hopkins' victory over Eastman took place.

As of press time, there were still some minor issues that needed to be ironed out, but Hopkins wants the fight. He also wants to warn Taylor, 23-0 (17), that he intends to head off into the sunset still in possession of the undisputed title.

"I absolutely want the fight to happen, and any middleweight fight that I'm in, I want it to be a fight people want to see," Hopkins said. "I think almost everyone on the Taylor side thinks that I'm too old. But I think Pat Burns, Taylor's trainer, wants to wait until I retire. They want an easy ride from me. They won't get it. Anyone that knows boxing can't wait for this fight to happen. Jermain personally wants the fight. He thinks he's ready for me. We'll see."

MILLION-DOLLAR LOSER

You know the saying "A day late and a dollar short," right? Well, **Bob Arum** may have created his own mantra, "Five years late, and a million dollars shot." Why, you ask? Because Arum will be putting on "Million Dollar Ladies," a grudge match between **Lucia Rijker** and **Christy Martin**, who were both, at one time, the best female fighters in the world. It might have been an attractive fight—maybe five years ago. Now it means nothing.

Arum is hoping to stage the fight, whose title is a play off the Academy-Award winning movie, *Million Dollar Baby*, on July 9 at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. Each fighter will get $250,000, with the winner earning an extra $750,000. Good luck selling this fight to the public, Bob. Rijker, 17-0 (14), hasn't fought since May 2004 and Martin, 45-3-2 (30), will have been off for two years when she enters the ring against her arch-rival. The fight is scheduled for 12 rounds at 142 pounds. Both women will be 37 at the time of the fight. At that age, Arum might be better off calling it *Desperate Housewives*.

LISTEN UP

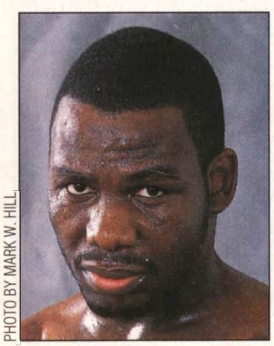
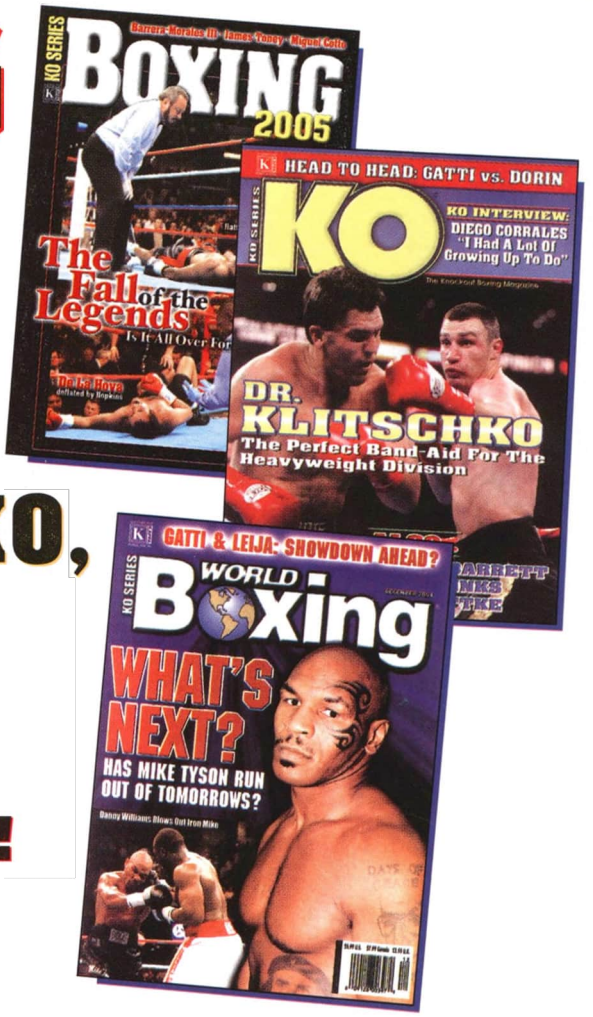


PHOTO BY MARK W. HILL

Rahman will have to wait a little longer

The ever-shifting **Vitali Klitschko-Hasim Rahman** heavyweight world championship has shifted again. The fight, originally switched from April 30 to June 18 because of a thigh injury to Klitschko, now appears as if it will land on July 23 at Madison Square Garden … Main Events and ESPN have formed a successful marriage, and it could result in a Fight of the Year candidate when **Rocky Juarez** and WBC featherweight titlist **In Jin Chi** clash on July 15, at the Pechanga Resort and Casino, in Temecula, California. In his last two fights, Juarez has stopped former WBC featherweight beltholder **Guty Espadas Jr.** in two rounds and durable **Juan Carlos Ramirez** in one. Chi enters the fight having stopped two of his last three opponents … **Katsushige Kawashima** and **Masamori Tokuyama** will conduct a junior bantamweight version of Barrera-Morales, when they step through the ropes in Osaka, Japan, on July 18. Kawashima, who survived a highly disputed decision over **Jose Navarro** in January, already lost a close decision to Tokuyama in their first fight and then avenged that loss with a second-round knockout in the rematch. ■

A DEVASTATING THREE-PUNCH COMBINATION!



SUBSCRIBE TO KO, WORLD BOXING, & BOXING 2005

And save 25% off the newstand price!

BOXING 2005

BOXING 2005 (Three times a year, 92 pages) **Includes ...**

- **Showdown.** A detailed look at a major upcoming fight.
- **Columns** by our respected editors, Eric Raskin or Joe Santoliquito.
- **Hot Prospect.** A profile of a rising fighter with star potential.
- **Media Review.** A critical examination of the fight game's press coverage.
- **Superstars & Superfights.** Remembering the greatest boxers of all-time.

WORLD BOXING

WORLD BOXING (Three times a year, 92 pages) **Includes ...**

- **Hitting On The Break.** An outrageous column by controversial Jim Bagg.
- **Getting My Irish Up.** Columnist Ed Maloney lets off some steam.
- **The Sweeter Science.** Joe Santoliquito's in-depth look at the world of women's boxing.
- **The Predictor.** Previews and odds on upcoming fights.
- **Report Card.** We grade six different fighters in a new division each issue, forecasting their chances for future success.

KO

KO (Three times a year, 84 pages) **Includes ...**

- **My Best Shot.** Editor-in-Chief Nigel Collins, 32 years on the beat, shares his views of the world of boxing.
- **Fight Confidential.** Cynical, maybe. Insightful, definitely. Wishy-washy, never. That's KO's Jeff Ryan.
- **Perspective.** Ivan Goldman digs into boxing from a West Coast point of view.
- **On The Move.** Who's hot and who's not in the boxing world.
- **Stat City.** Bob Cannobio adds some perspective to the CompuBox numbers.
- **The KO Interview:** Anybody who's anybody in this game has to endure our hotseat at least once!

SAVE 25% WITH THE 1-2-3 COMBINATION

☐ World Boxing/Boxing 2005/KO (9 issues) for just $38.18 (LWBX, LKOM, LBOX)

Send To: London Publishing Co., P.O. Box 2085, Dept. 9, Marion, OH 43306-8185

Please indicate method of payment:

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA # _____

☐ MasterCard # _____

Expiration Date: ____ / ____ (MO / YR)

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

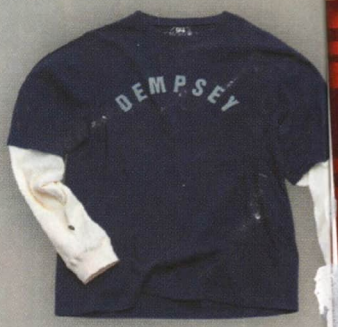
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

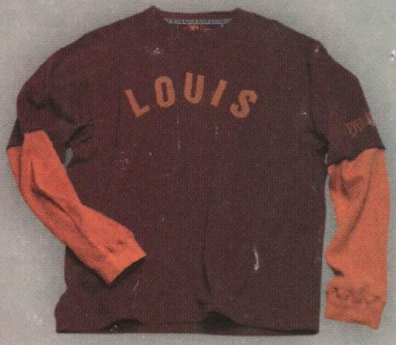
☐ New Subscription ☐ Renewal

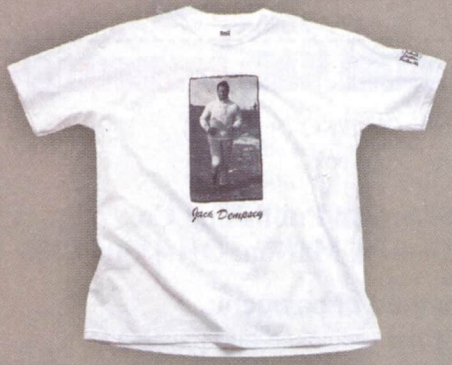
For Canada and all other countries: $45.38 for nine issues combined of World Boxing/Boxing 2005/KO ($60.68 airmail). International money orders only in U.S. funds only. Please allow up to eight weeks before you receive your first magazine.
Offer expires January 31, 2006.

A0505R

7033/11-04







EVERLAST
★
HERITAGE

www.everlast.com

©/™ 2004 Jack Dempsey, Rocky Marciano, Floyd Patterson, Joe Louis, Ray Robinson Properties & Licensing by CMG Worldwide, www.CMGWorldwide.com